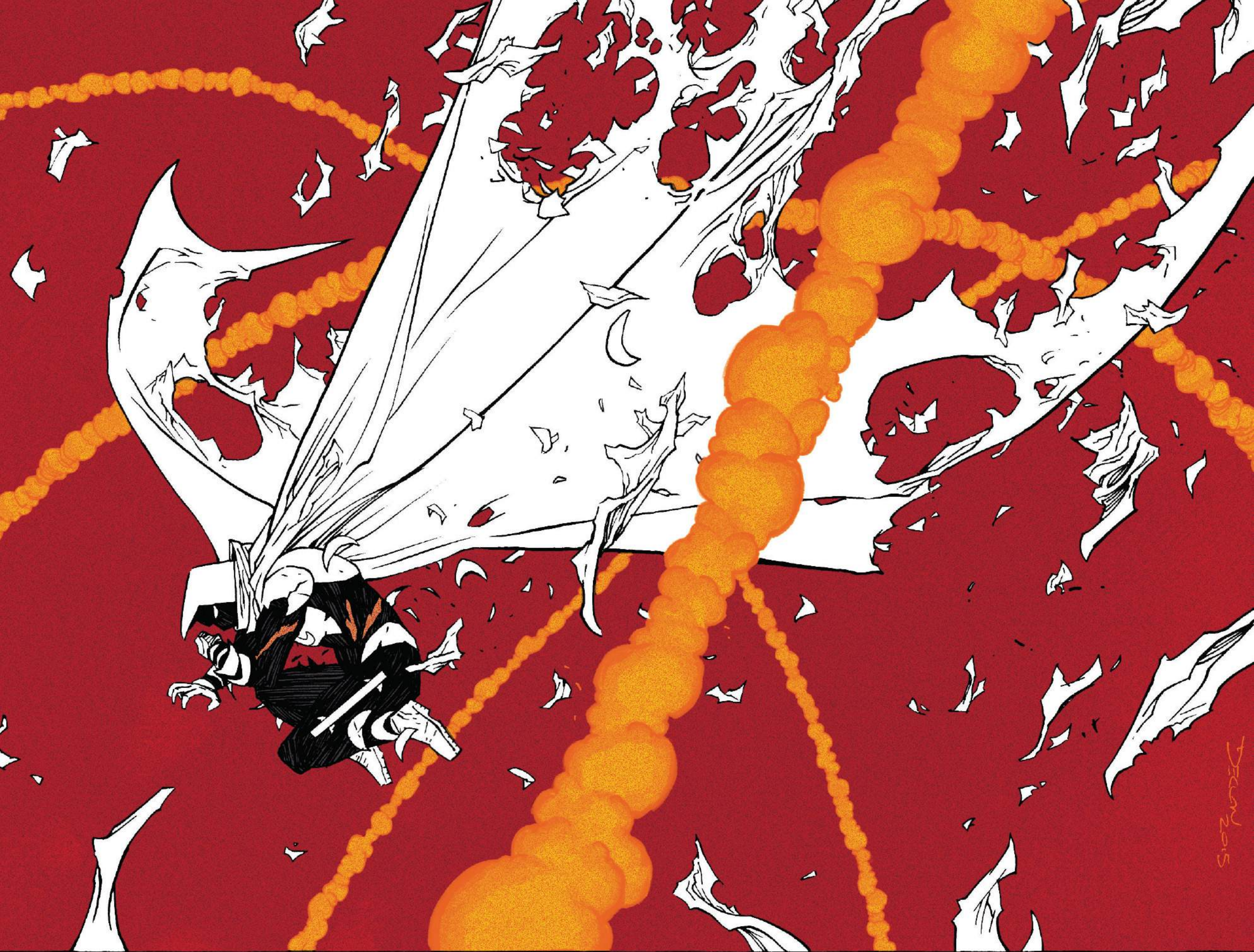




"The story is brutal and entertaining, as well as new-reader friendly."

— MajorSpoilers.com

MOON KNIGHT™

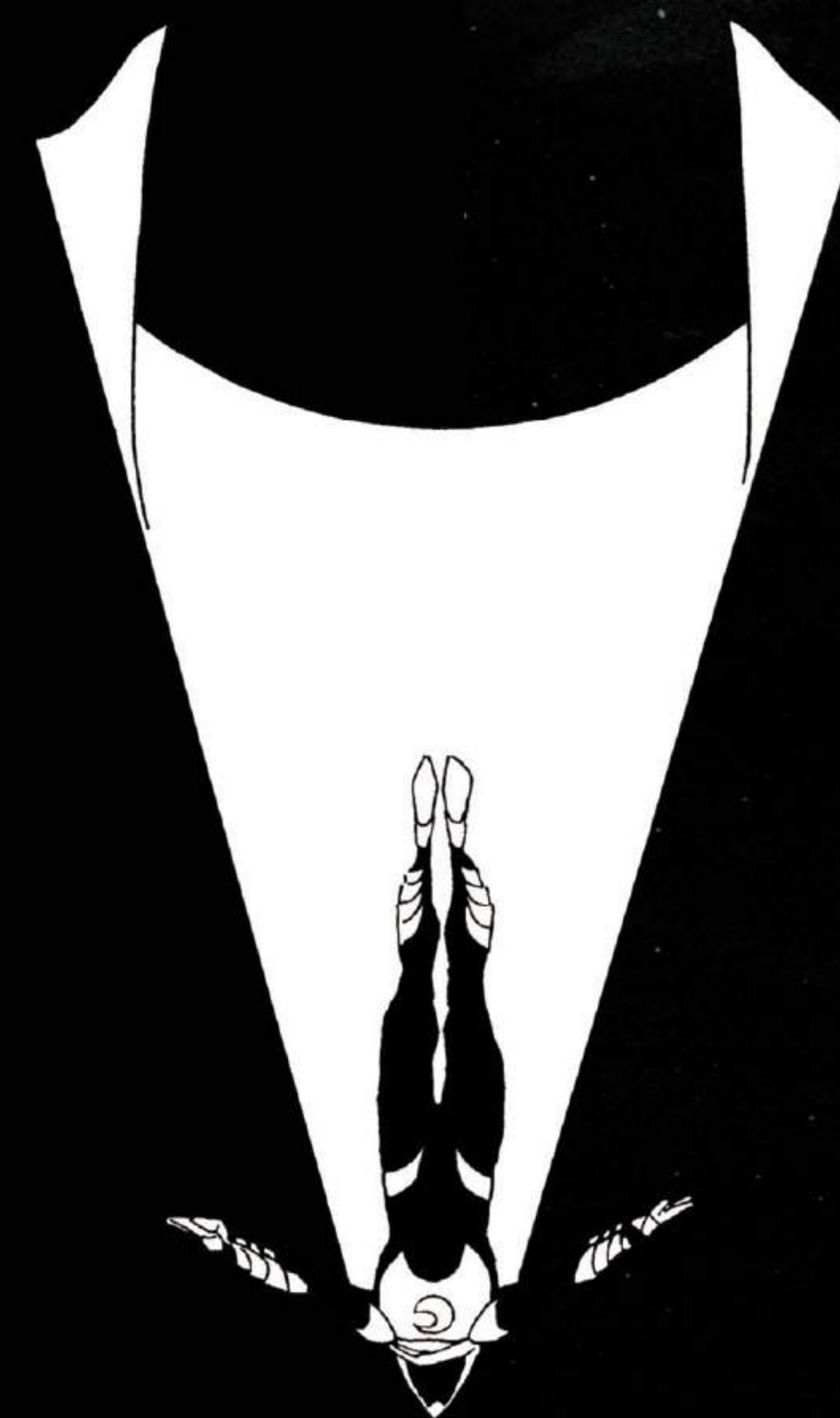
IN THE NIGHT

BUNN

MARVEL
NOW!

ACKINS
PERALTA





MOON KNIGHT

IN THE NIGHT

WRITER
CULLEN BUNN

#13–14 & #17

PENCILER **RON ACKINS**

INKERS TOM PALMER WITH WALDEN WONG (#13, #17) AND VICTOR OLAZABA (#13)

#15–16

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COLOR ARTIST
DAN BROWN

LETTERER
TRAVIS LANHAM

COVER ART
DECLAN SHALVEY & JORDIE BELLAIRE

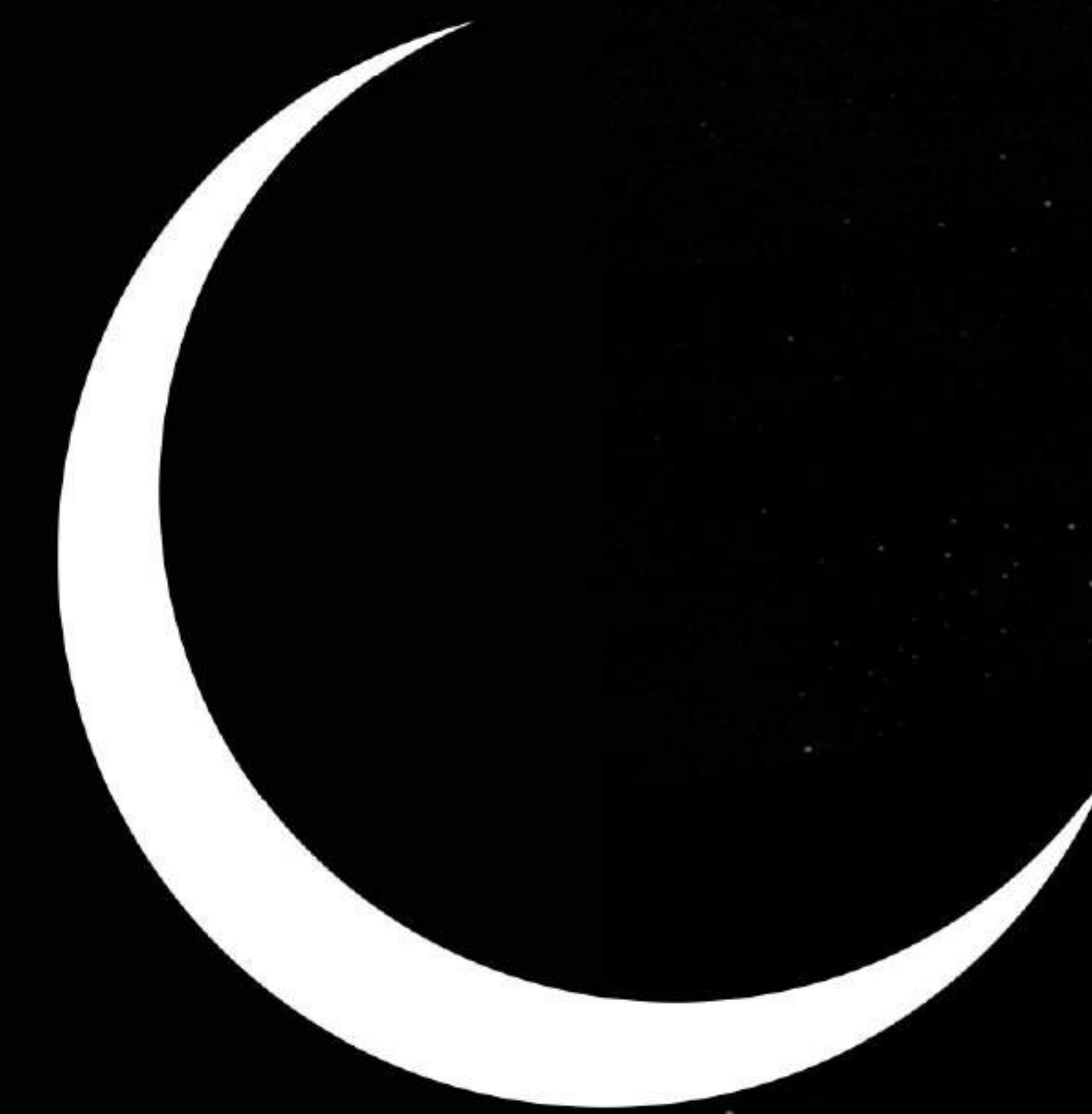
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR JAKE THOMAS EDITOR NICK LOWE



Mercenary Marc Spector died in Egypt under a statue of the ancient deity Khonshu. He returned to life in the shadow of the moon god, and wore his aspect to fight crime for his own redemption. He went completely insane, and disappeared.

This is what happened next.

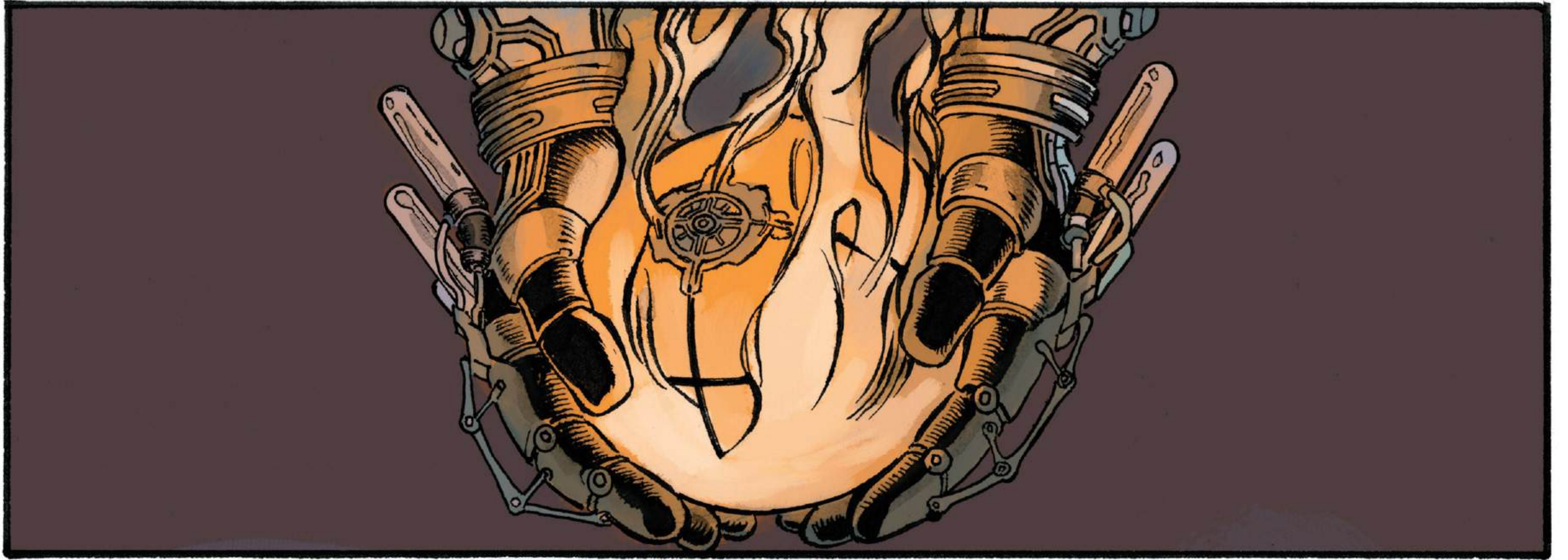


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MARVEL

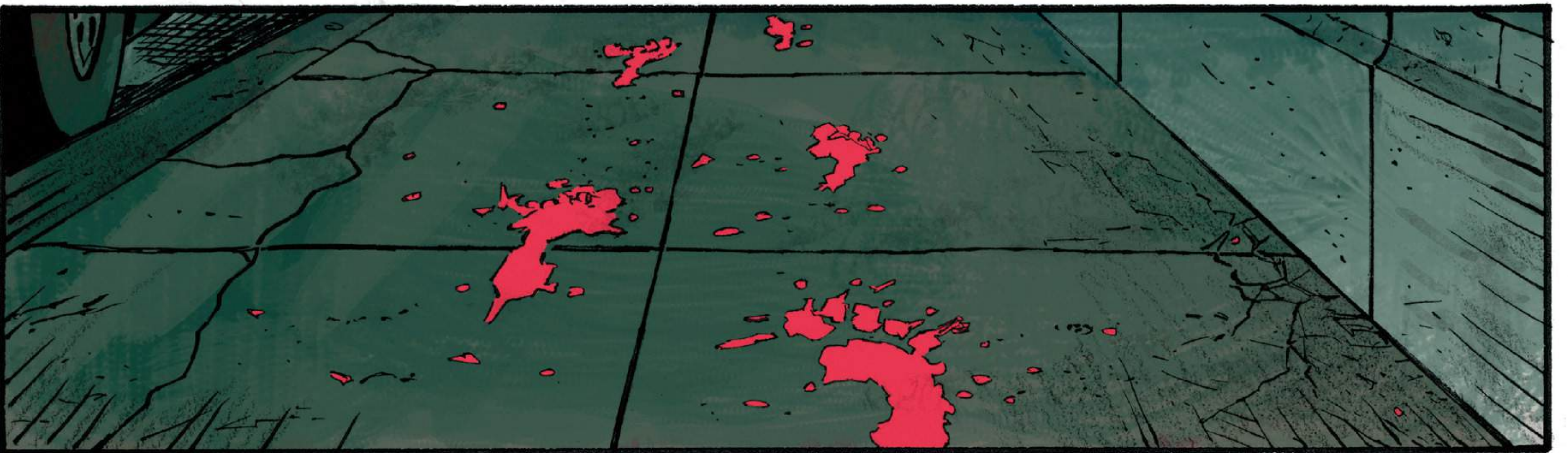
013



MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS:

MOON KNIGHT

"FOOTPRINTS"







What is it?

What do you want?



This is *private property*, you know.



You don't *belong* here.



This isn't a *hotel* anymore. It hasn't been for a long time.

This is *my* home.

Find someplace else and leave me--



--alone.



Beautiful.



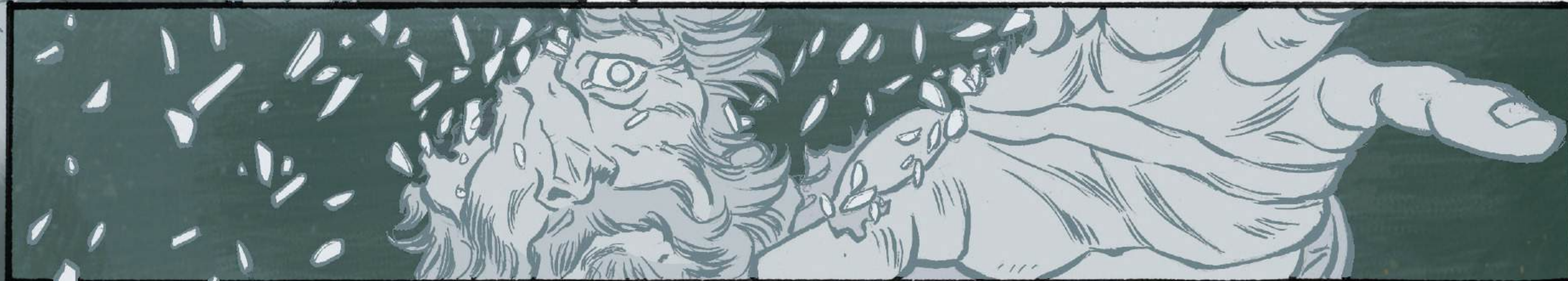
MY SON.

DO NOT
TURN YOUR
BACK TO THESE
WAYWARD
SOULS.

YOU
ARE MY
PRIEST.
AND THIS IS YOUR
CONGREGATION.



Ghosts.





APEX WHOLESALE MEATS

Beef · Lamb · Pork · Exotic

Never seen *numbers* like this before.

We've already surpassed last month.

And the *pulse* is still *going strong*.

We're gonna need more *Witch's Orbs*.

This place is a *gold mine*.

And these gloves...make the *dead* dance like *puppets*.

I told you.

What did I say?

We should've set up shop here a long time ago.

It's the *residual mortality energy*.

IL AUTO v1 MON
I
Testing... (15)



Draws
ghosts like
flies.



Can
we double
them up?

Put more
than one spirit
in each orb?

We keep
grabbing 'em
in like we
have...

...that
may be
the only
choice.



Get
ready!

We've got
another one
on the line!



Money in
the bank.

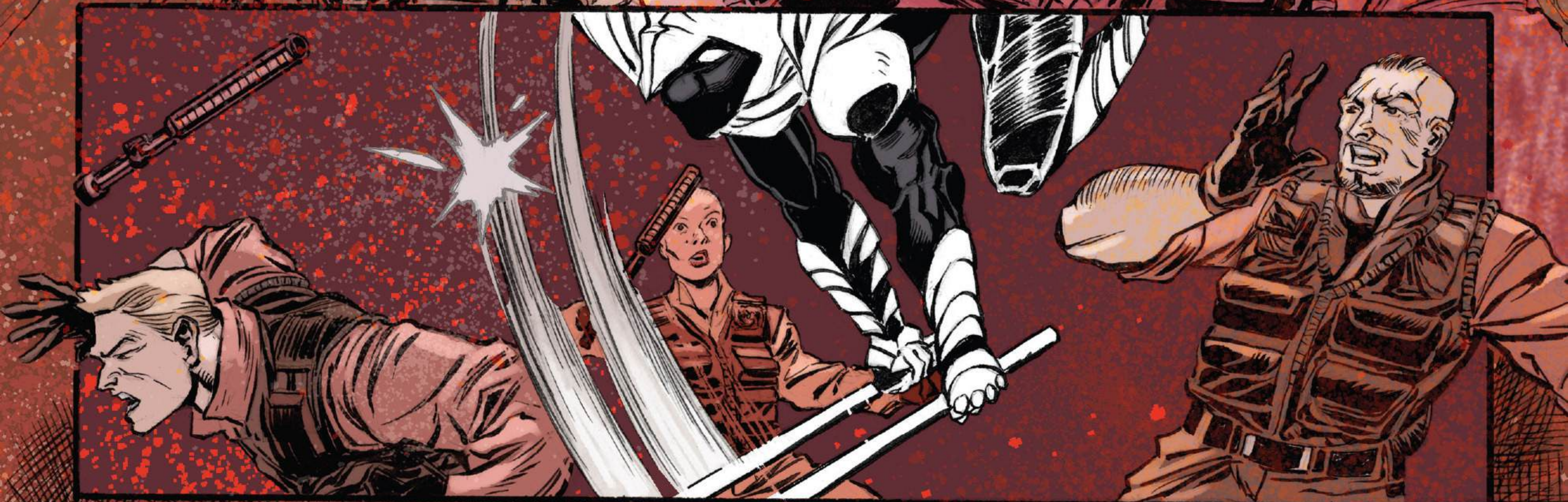
Manipulators
are primed.



D-Did you *hear*
something?

You sure are
jumpy tonight,
Harris.

Maybe you
ought to consider
another line
of--

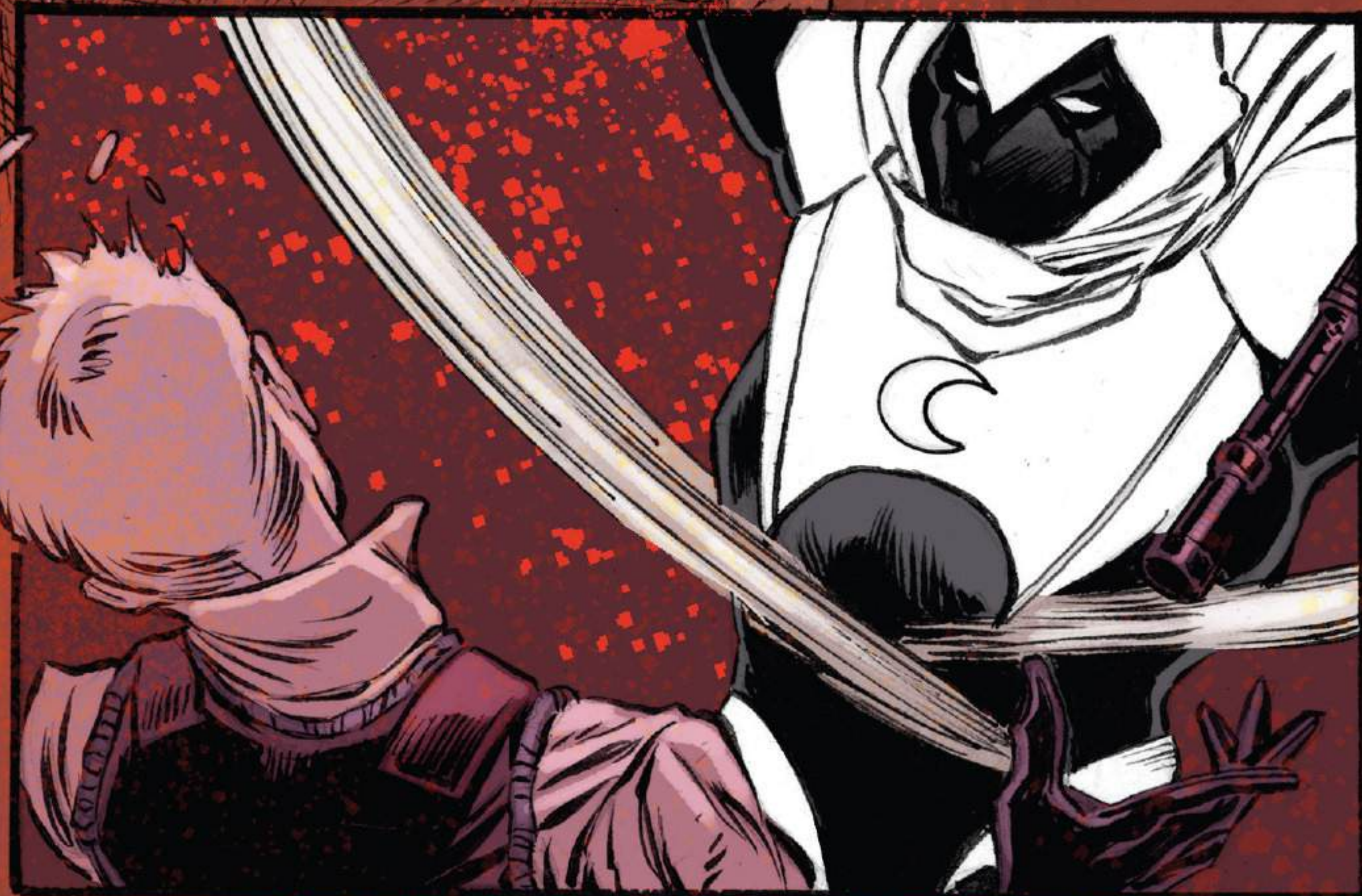


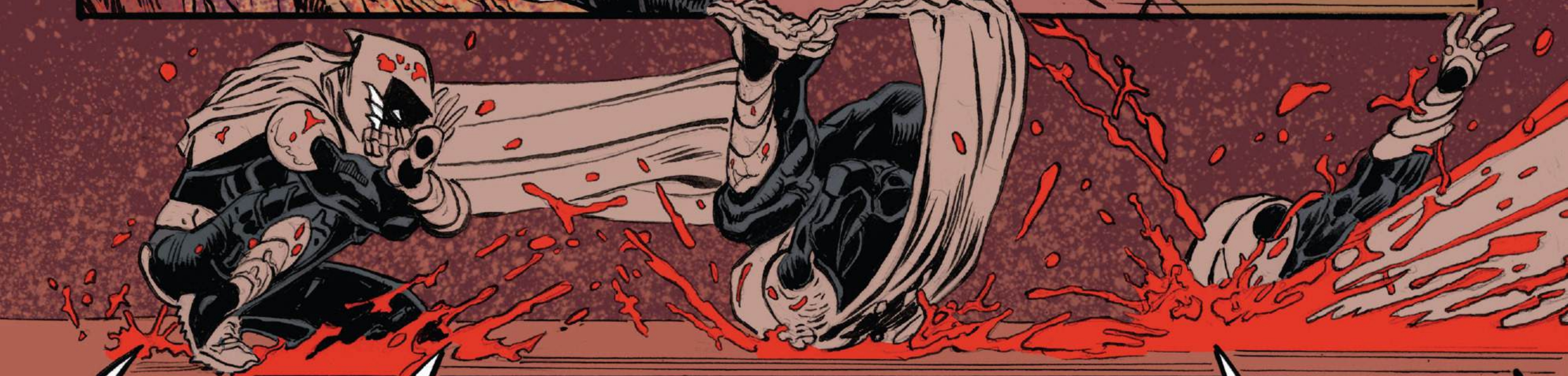
If...
that's a
ghost...

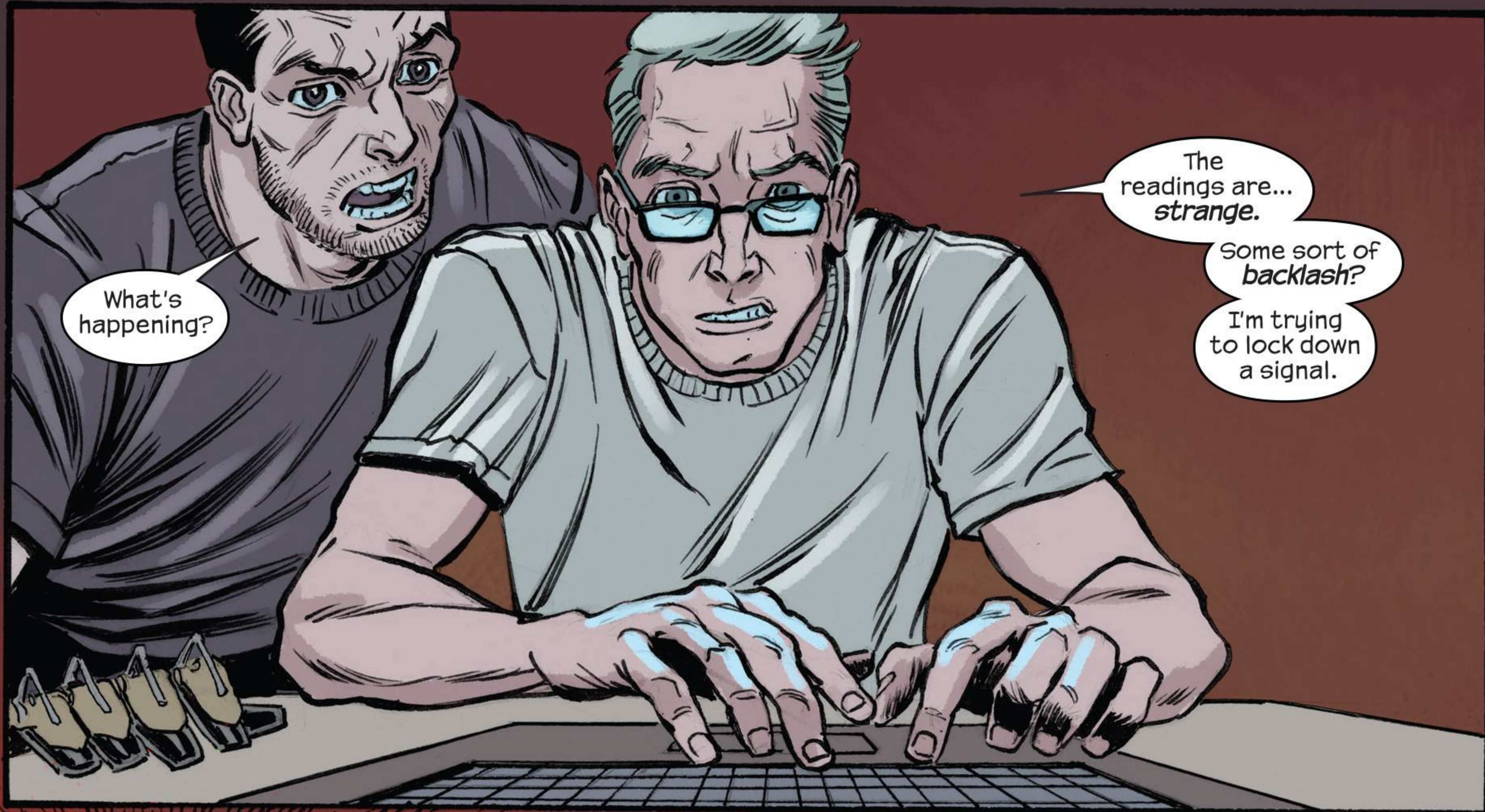
...it packs
a lot of
punch!



RAAAAGGH!







What's happening?

The readings are... *strange*.

Some sort of *backlash*?

I'm trying to lock down a signal.



We've never had a *violent reaction* like this!

But the gloves should still work.

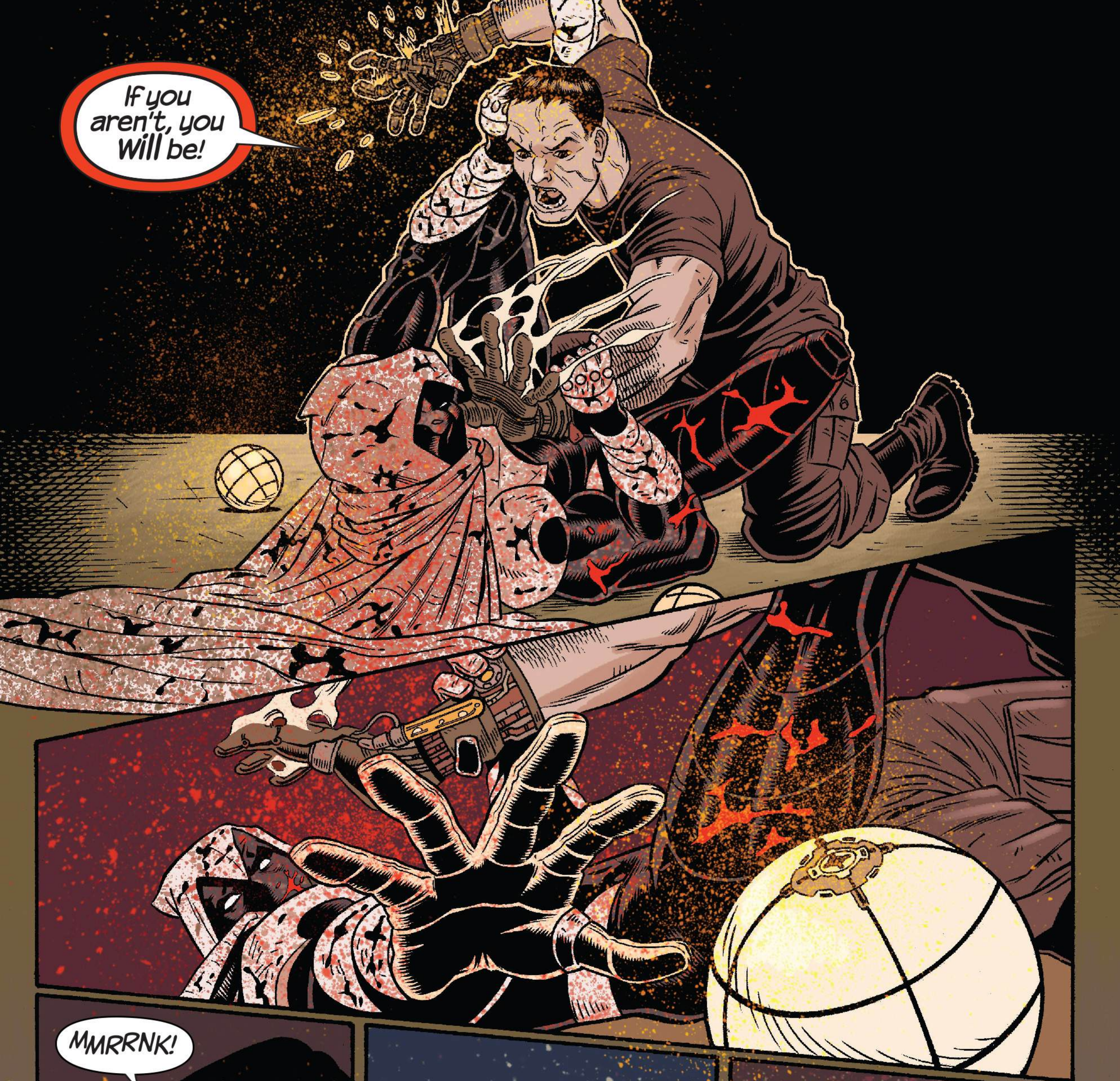
Like hell!

Look at him!

Aaah--

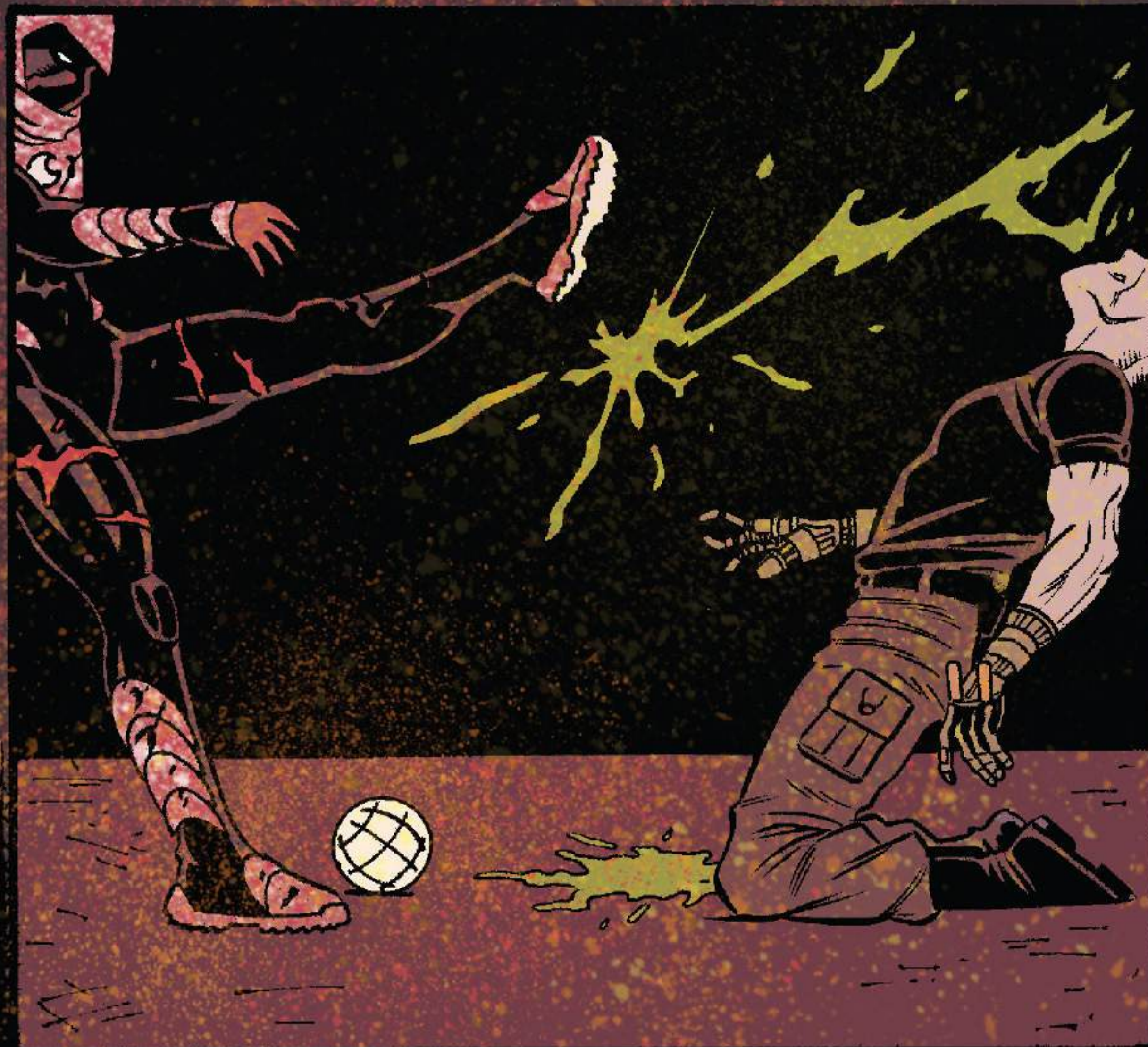






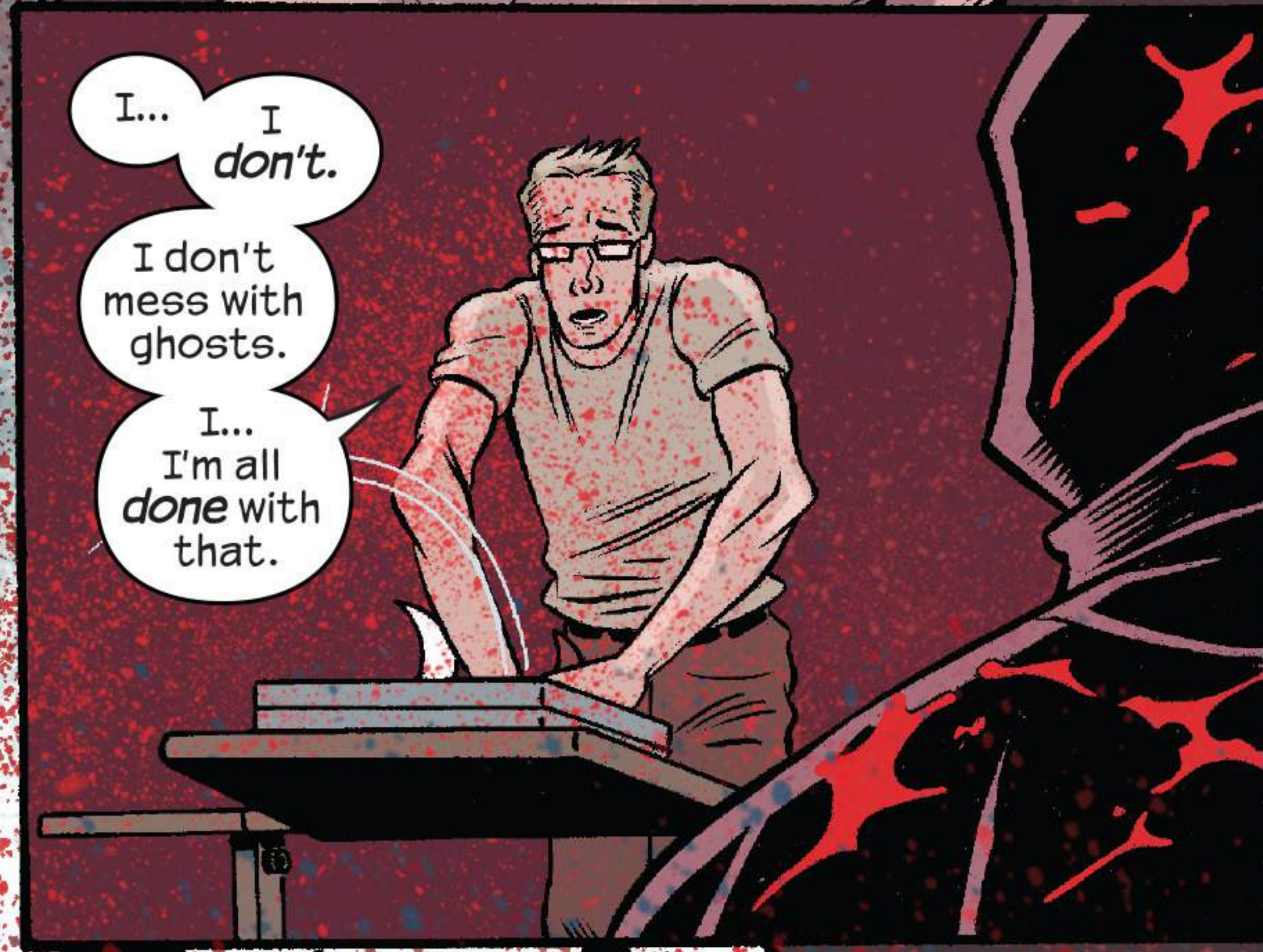
MMRRNK!





I'll ask again.

Why are you capturing ghosts?



I... I don't.

I don't mess with ghosts.

I... I'm all done with that.

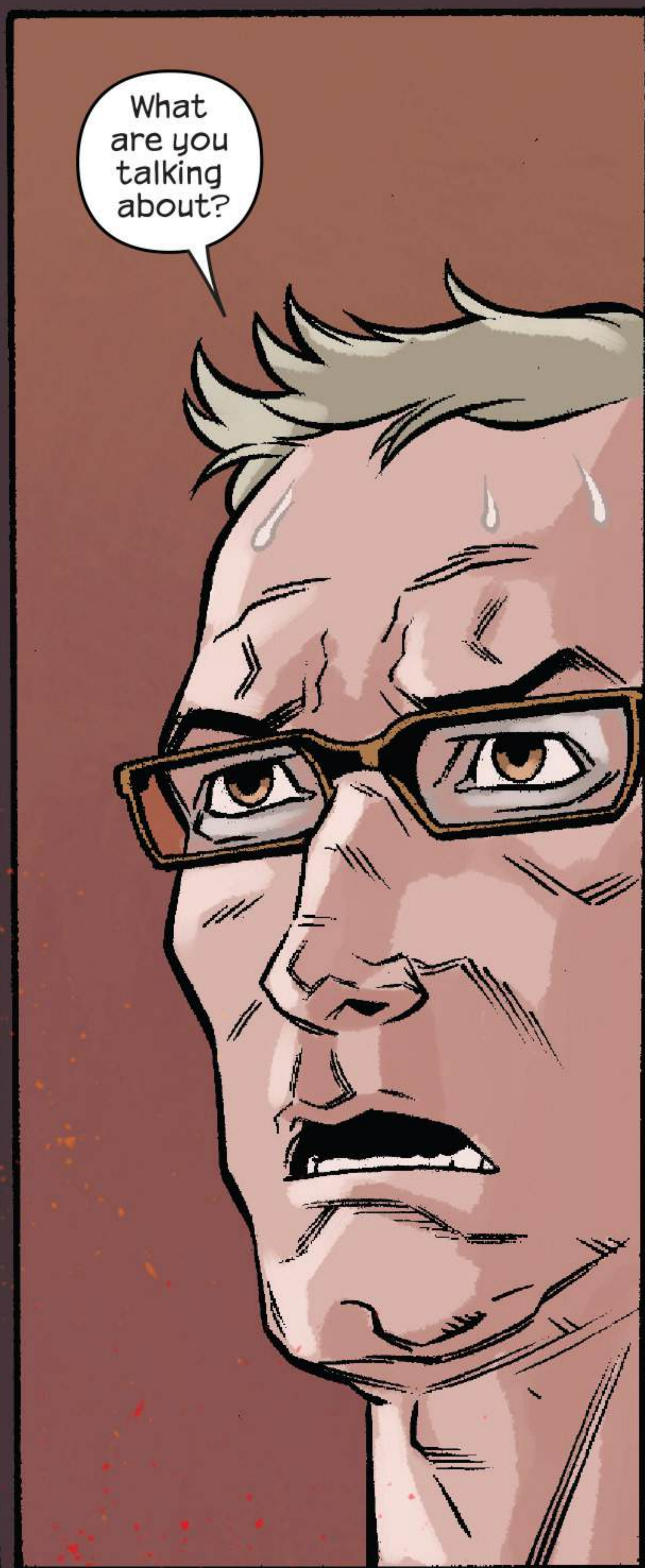
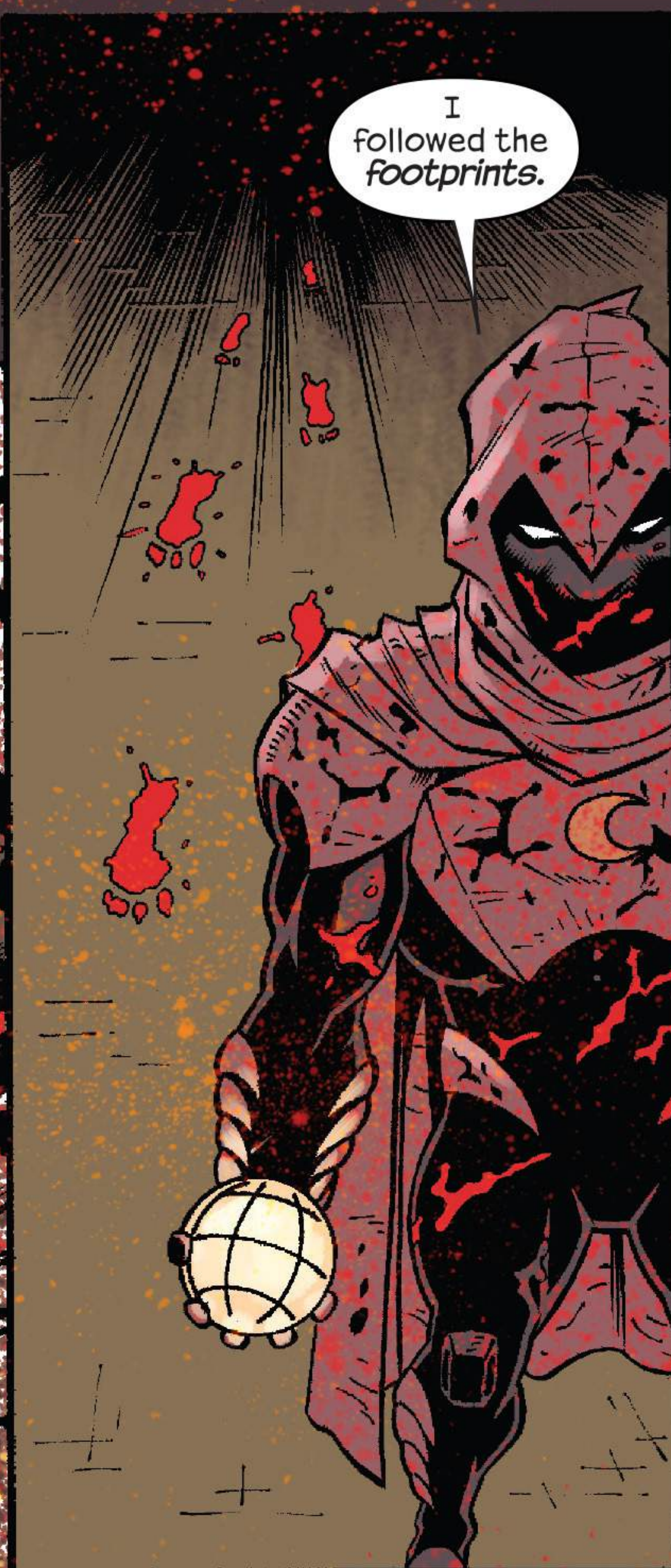
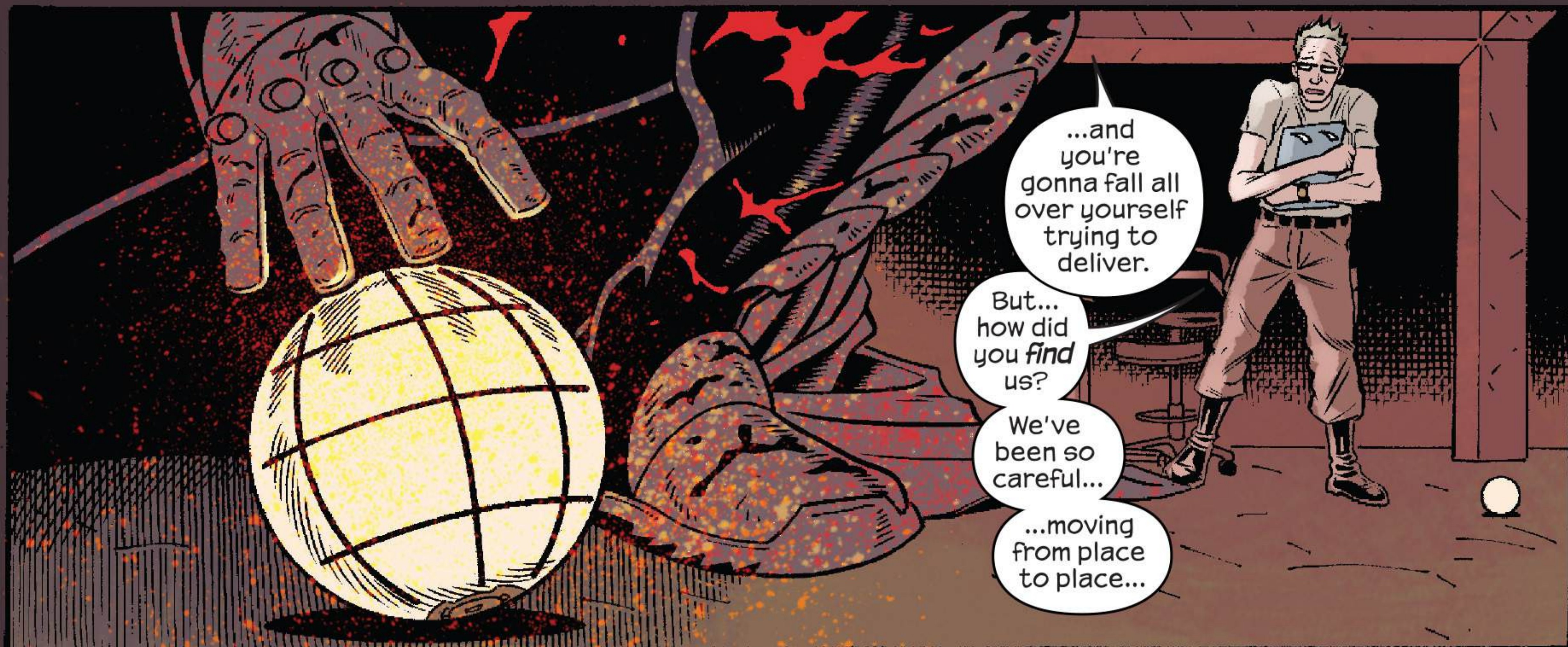


Smart answer.

But you *aren't* done with me.

Do you understand?

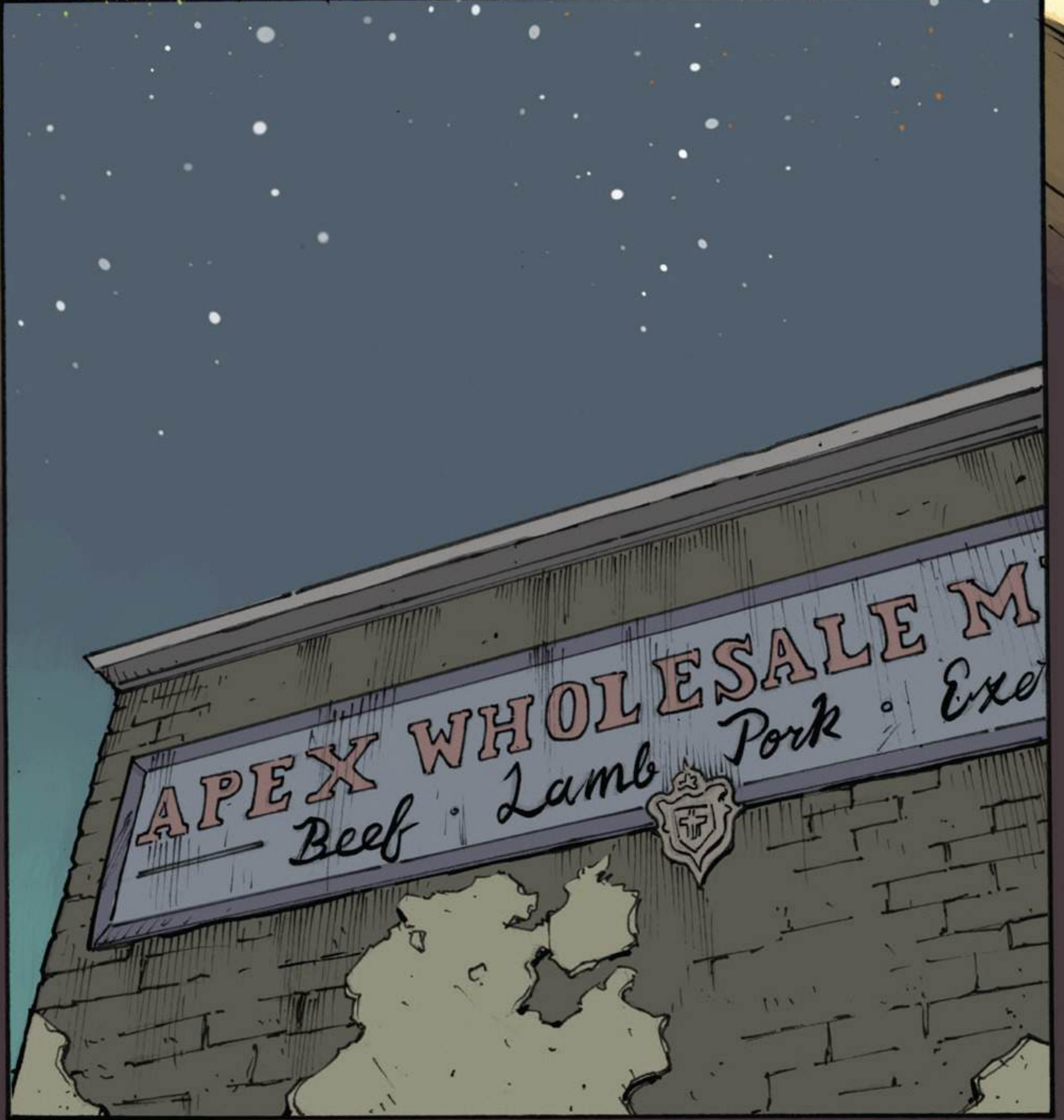
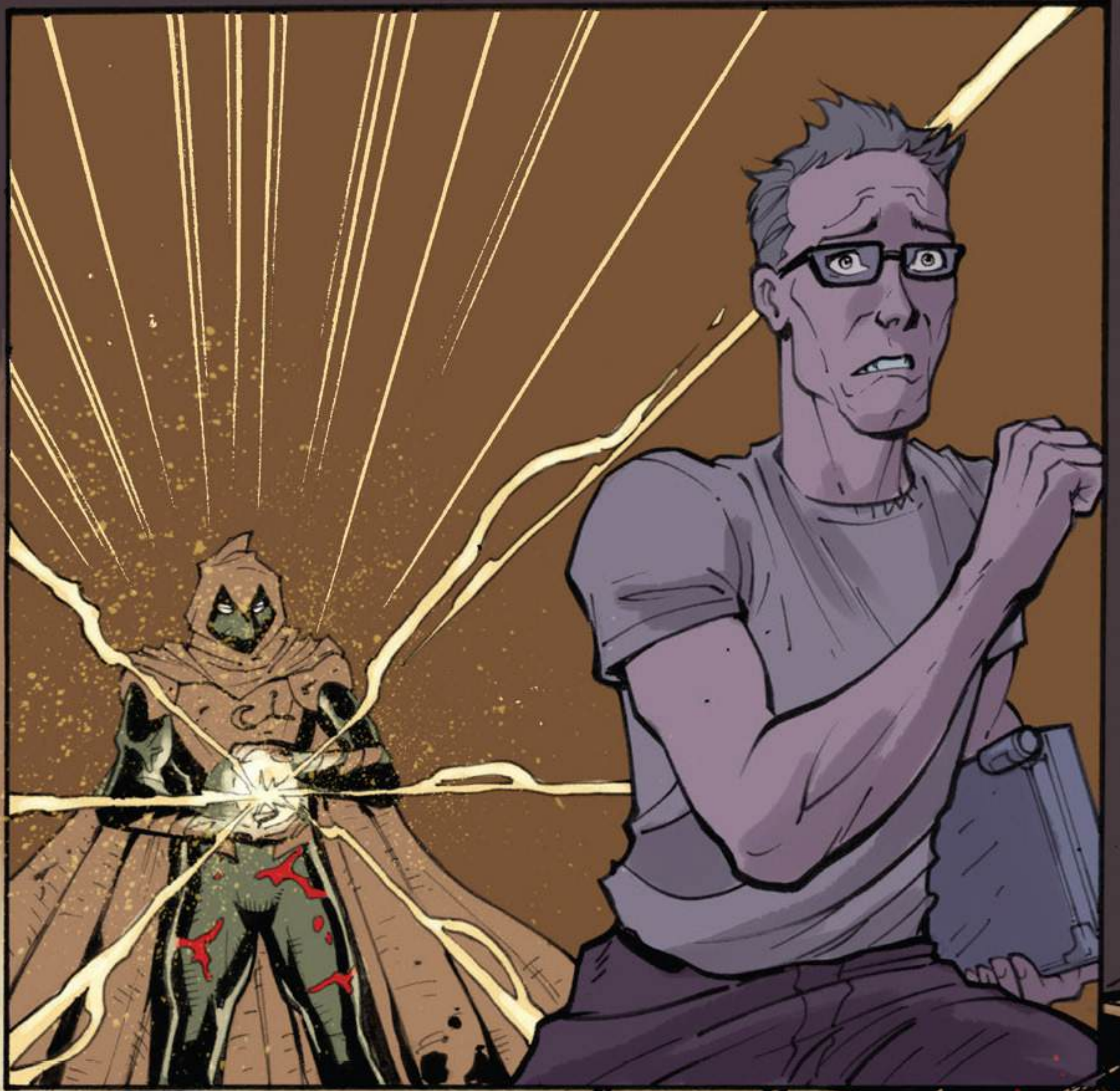
One of these days... I'll find you... I'll ask for a favor...



I'm going to set the spirits free now.

My guess is they'll be *none too pleased* with the people who *trapped* them.

My suggestion to you is--





All right.

You're free now.

You can go on about your business.

Whatever the hell that is.



That's enough.



Understand this--

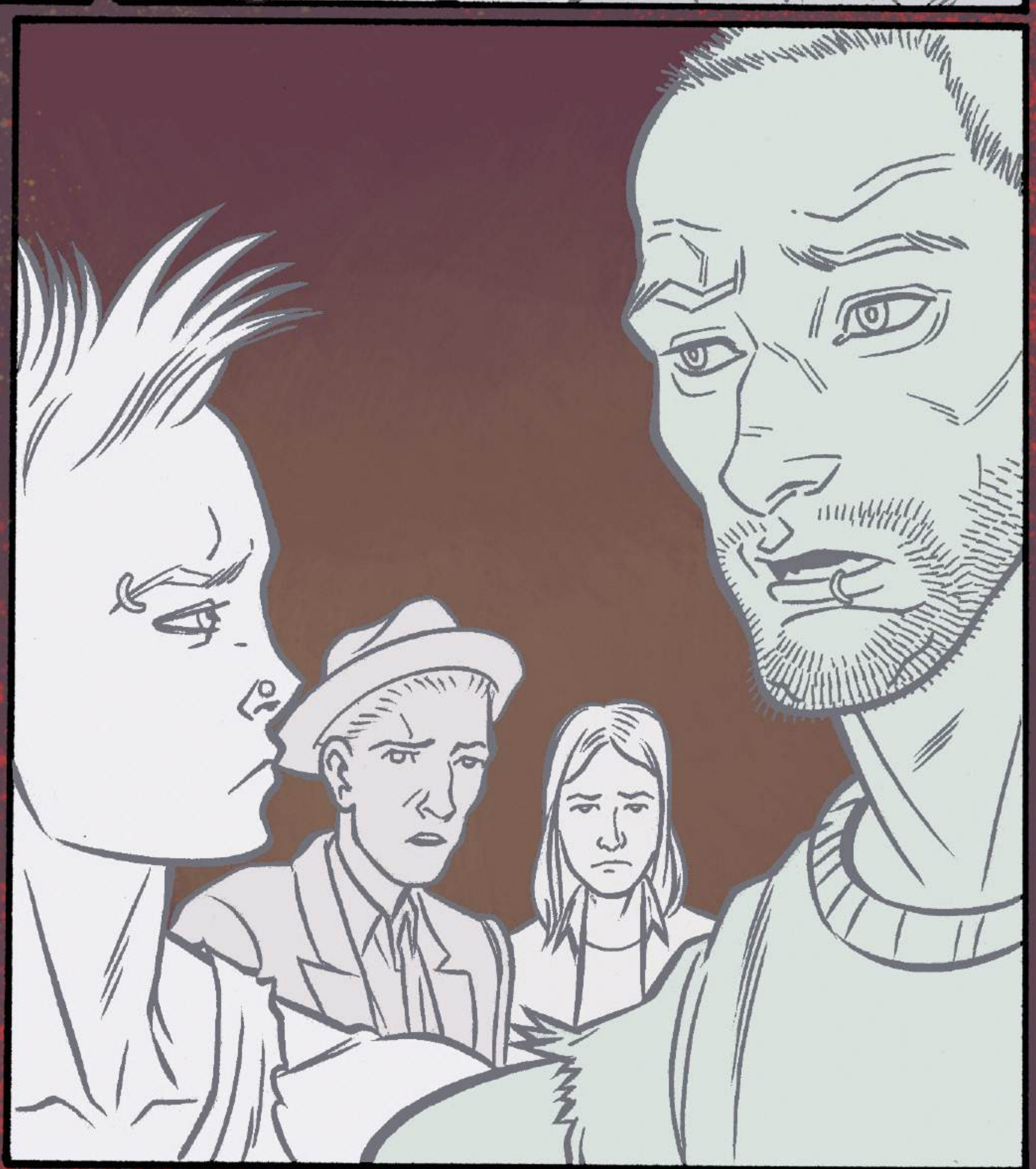
I'm the guardian of nighttime travelers.

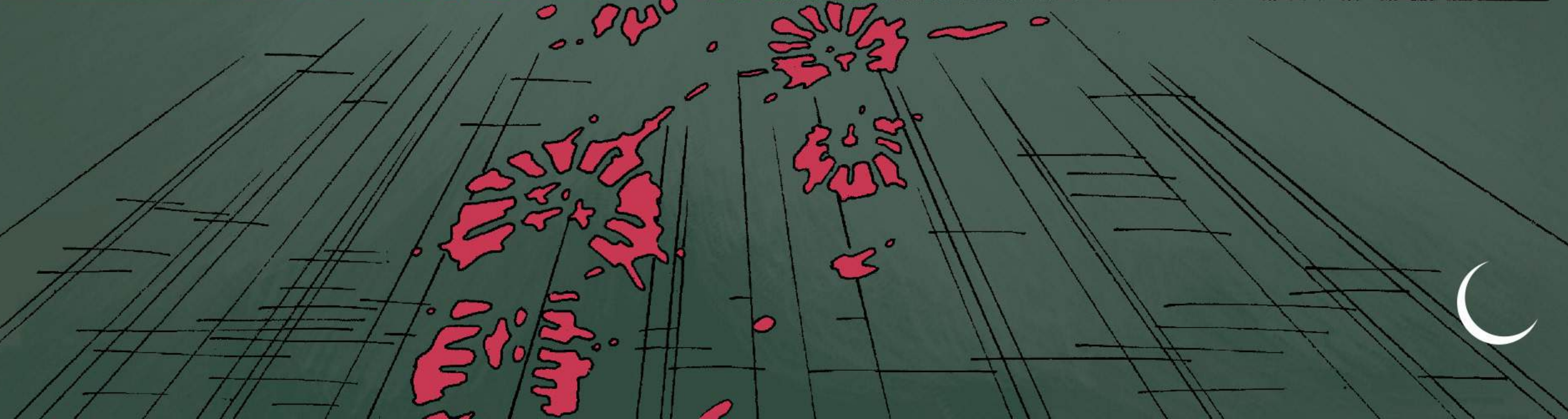
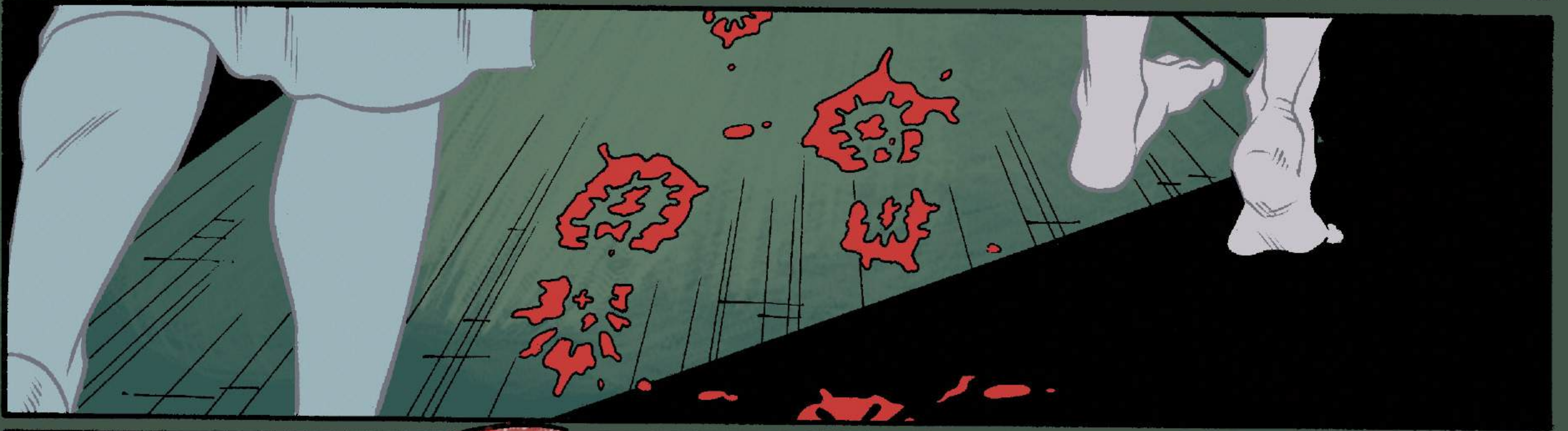
And *traveling* means you should *keep moving*.

So--



--shove off.







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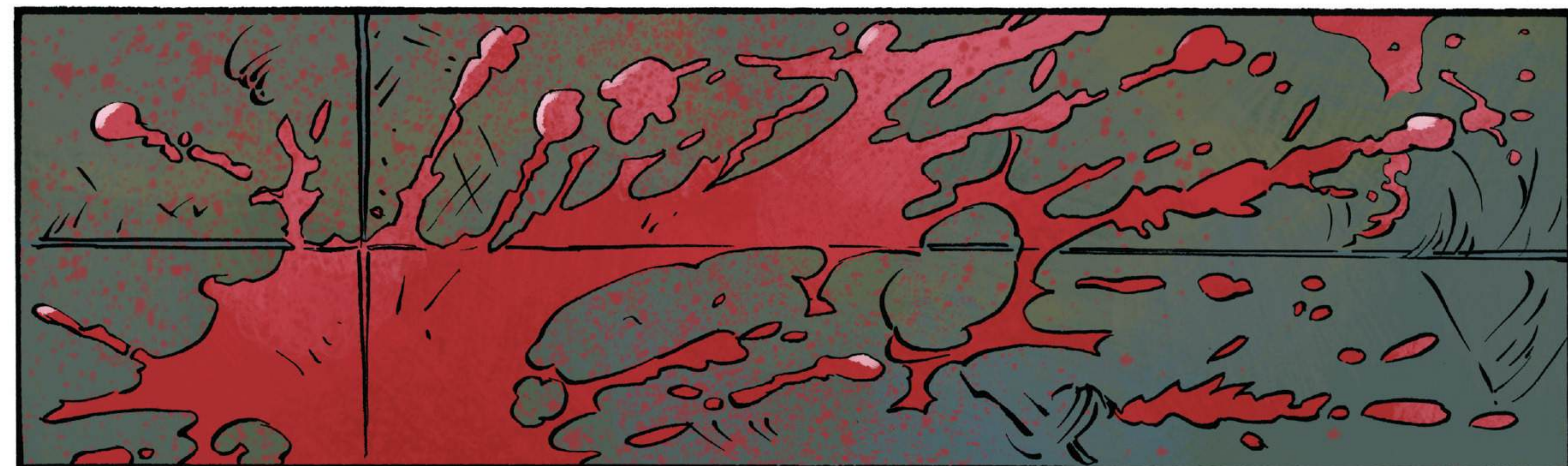
MARVEL

014



MOON KNIGHT

"OLD GODS' FAVORS"









Even the gods call in *favours* from time to time.



Whatever it is you want me to see...

...I think it's outside my *pay grade*.



It's the *burden* of any *priest*...

...to inspire *faith* in what cannot be seen...



"...when *only* faith can open one's eyes."

Wha? Where'd he go?

LATER.



Have you heard anything back from Carlyle?

--to book that trip tomorrow.

I hear the calamari here is to die for.

Would you like cracked pepper with that?



Where are we on the beef Wellington?

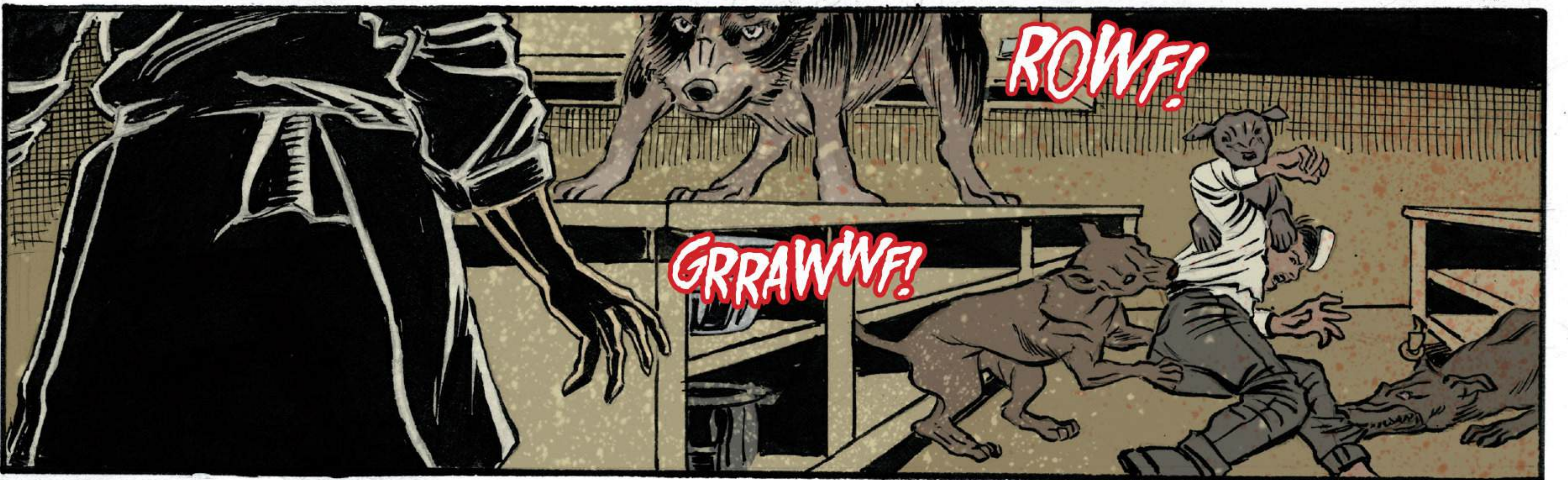
Salads are ready for table three.

...managed prep on my own!

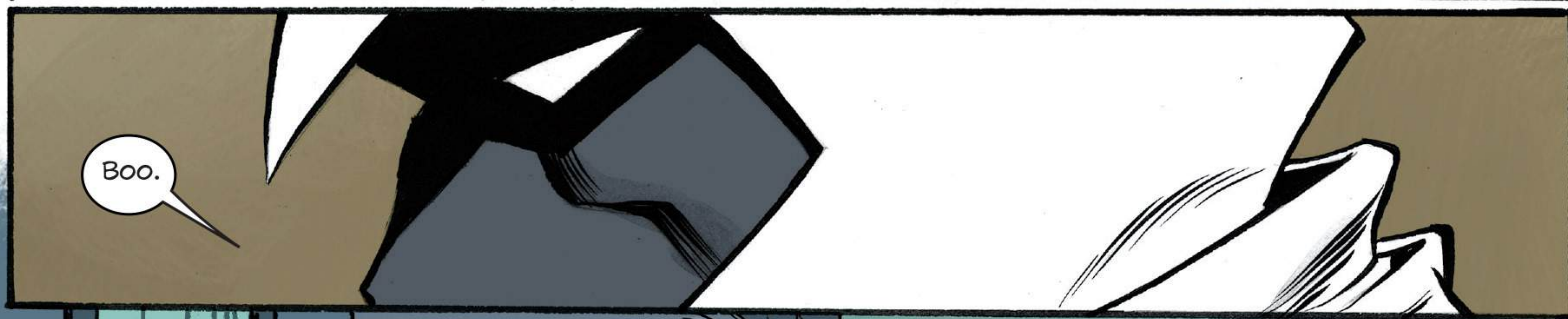


Excuse me. Coming through.











YIPE!

YARP!

GRRRAWWF!



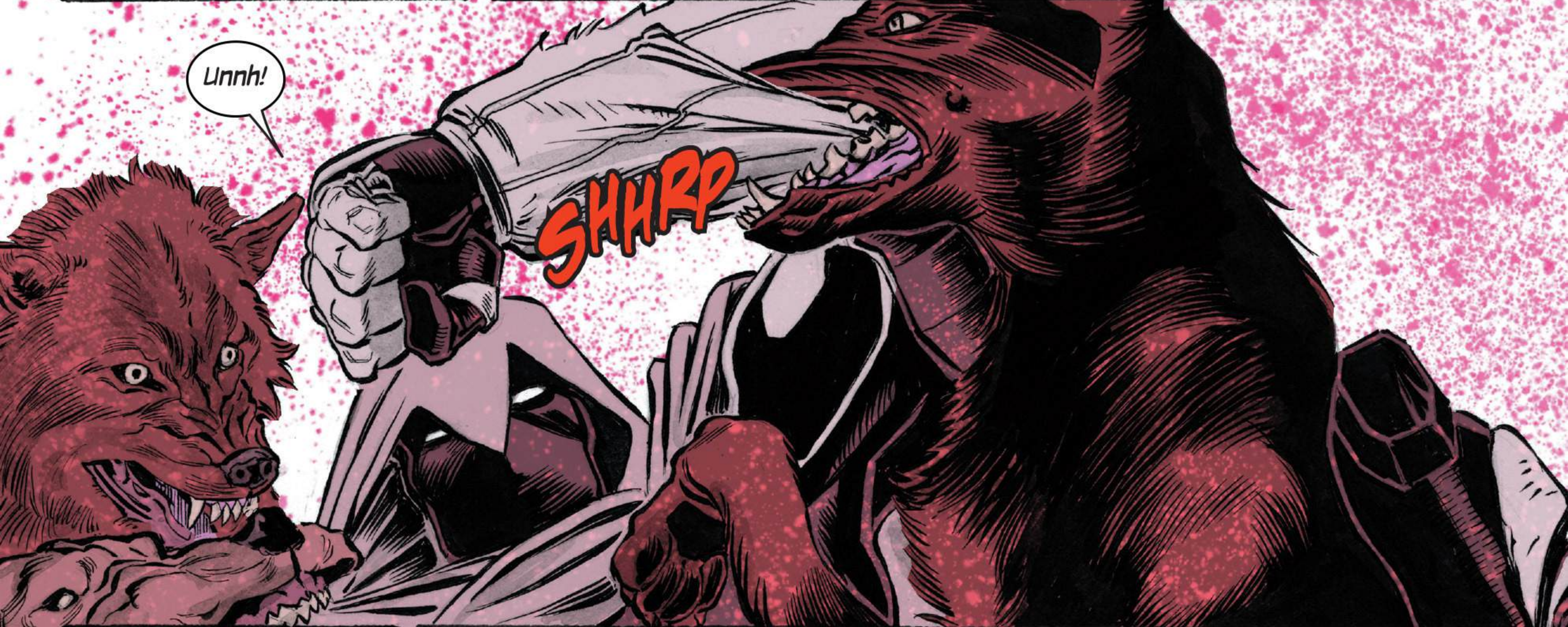
THUMM-CRASH

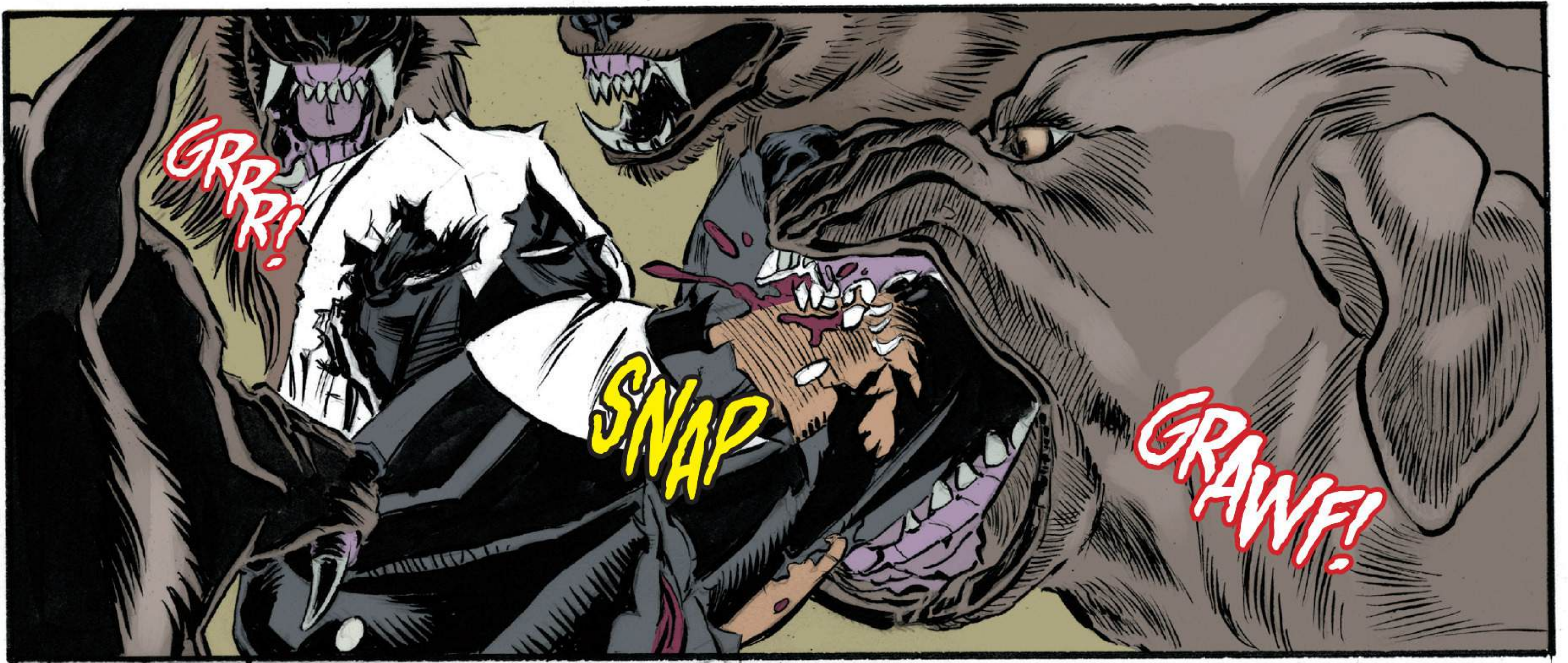


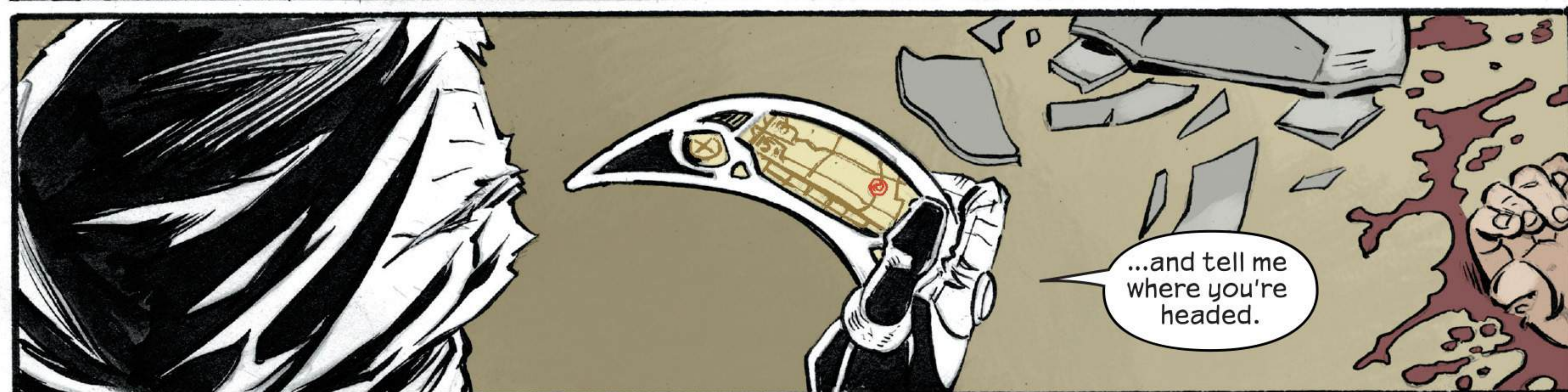
Hhht!



KRRSSH

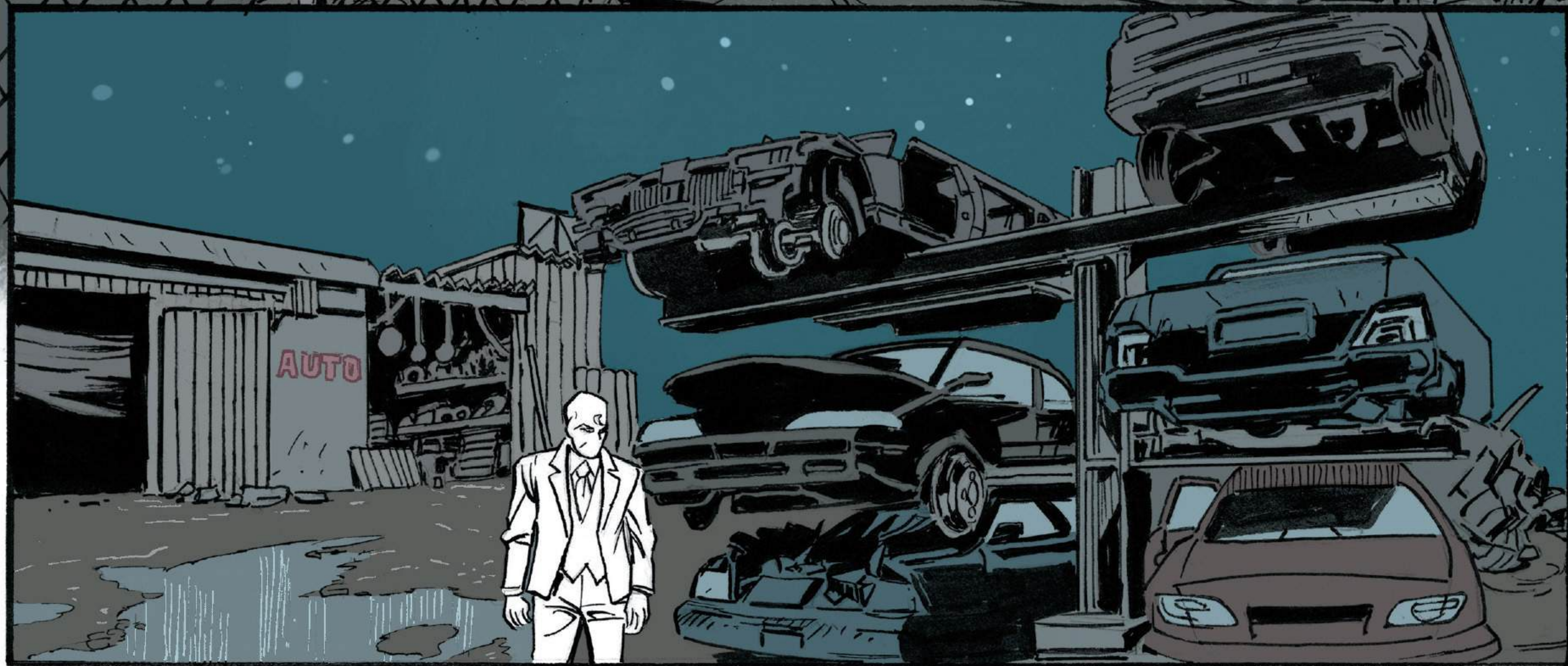








"...I'm trying to *help* you?"





BWARK! BARK!

RAWF! RAWF!



Ah.

Dammit.



SHLK



This didn't kill you, did it?

Someone else did this.

You failed...



...and this was punishment.

Sorry about that.



But I'll make it up to you.

BARK! RAWF! RAWF!



WAAAAAAAAA







I have to know...

...what is it you hoped to accomplish?



Training dogs to track expensive clothing...



...to target the wealthy...

...beating them...

...teaching them to be vicious.



Whu--

What makes those rich scum so special?

What makes them so much better than me?



Gonna knock them off their high horses.



It's not *your* job to *teach* anyone.

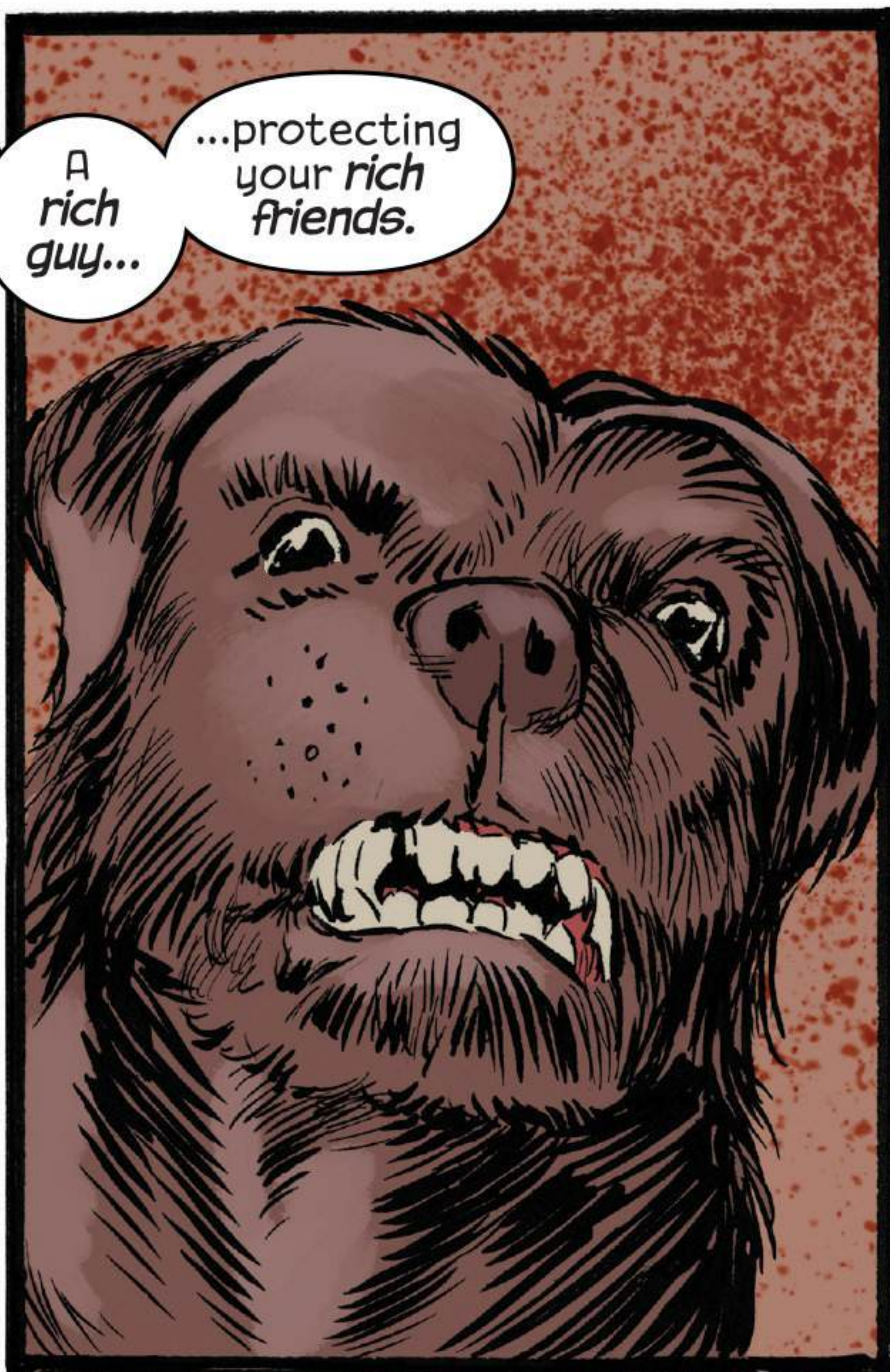
The mighty fall...

...or they don't...

...as *fate* dictates.



You're... just one of them...ain't you?



A rich guy...

...protecting your rich friends.



Wrong on both counts.

I'm not one of them.

And I'm *not* protecting them.



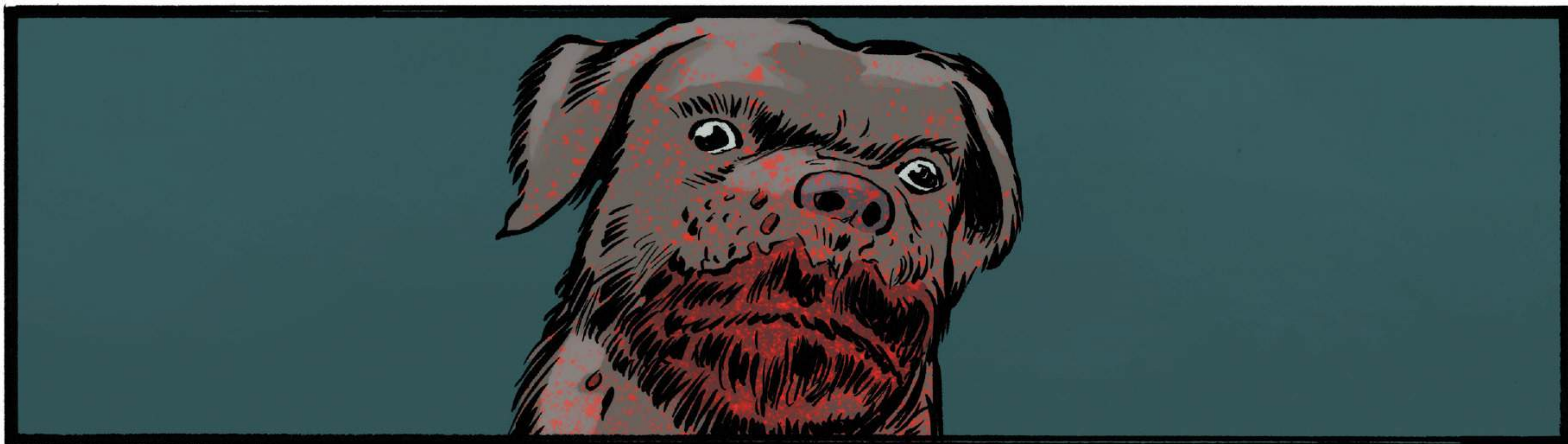
I protect
travelers in
the night.

I am the
shepherd.

This is
my *flock*.

And
every dog
has its
day.







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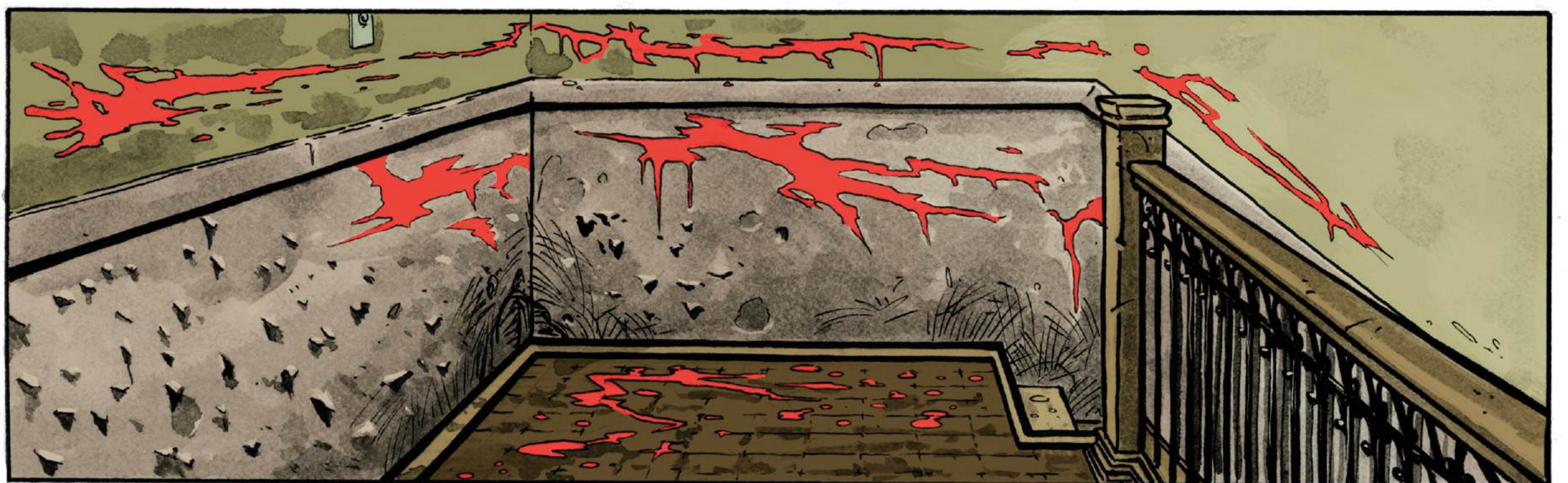
MARVEL

015



MOON KNIGHT

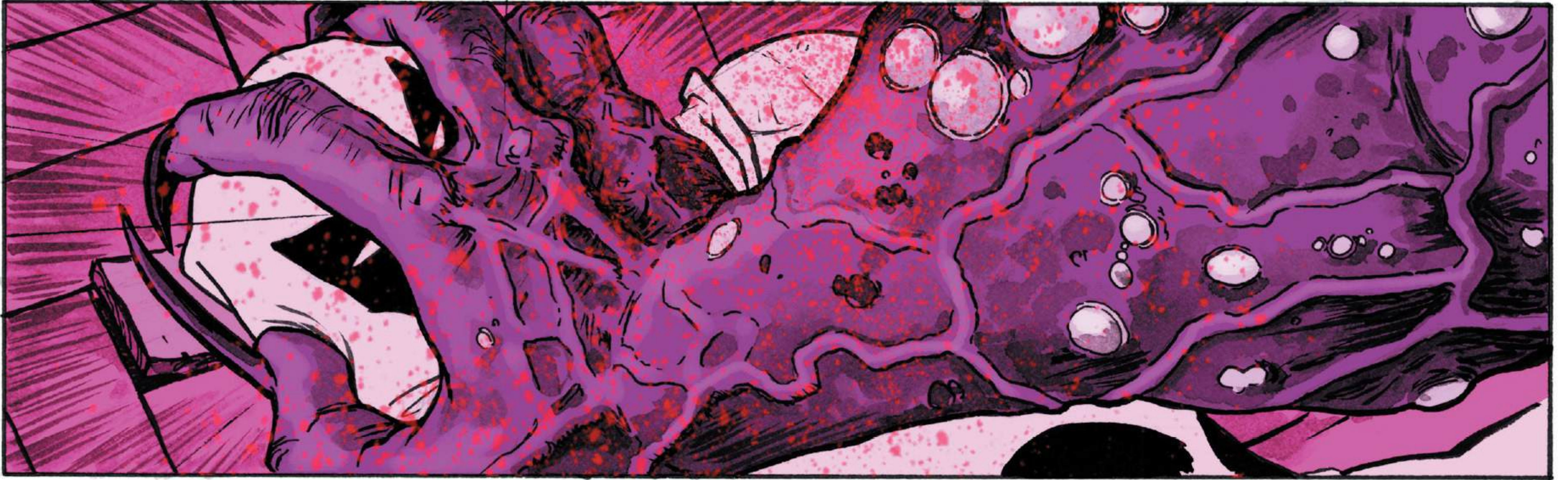
"BOGEYMAN"













Hey...hey...
you're *okay*
now...

...just
take it
easy...

...you've
been asleep
for a couple
of days...

...it's
normal to be
disoriented...



You're
new here.

And
you're not
like the
others.

You're
real...not
ghosts.

Who're
you?



We're...
friends.

We
found
you.

We
brought
you here.

How'd you
know about
this place?



...

You
know
what?

Forget
I asked.



Was it you
who patched
me up?

That's
right.

Once
upon a time,
I was a
doctor.

One
mistake
too many,
though,
and here
I am.



You really
need to
be still,
though.

You risk
pulling
out the
stitches--

Do me
a favor,
Doc.

Give me
a few minutes
to myself.



All
right.

But if you
need anything,
just give me
a yell.

And
try to
get some
rest.



So...
we're
alone
now.



Are
you going to
answer the
question?



I
HAVE **NOT**
FORSAKEN
YOU.

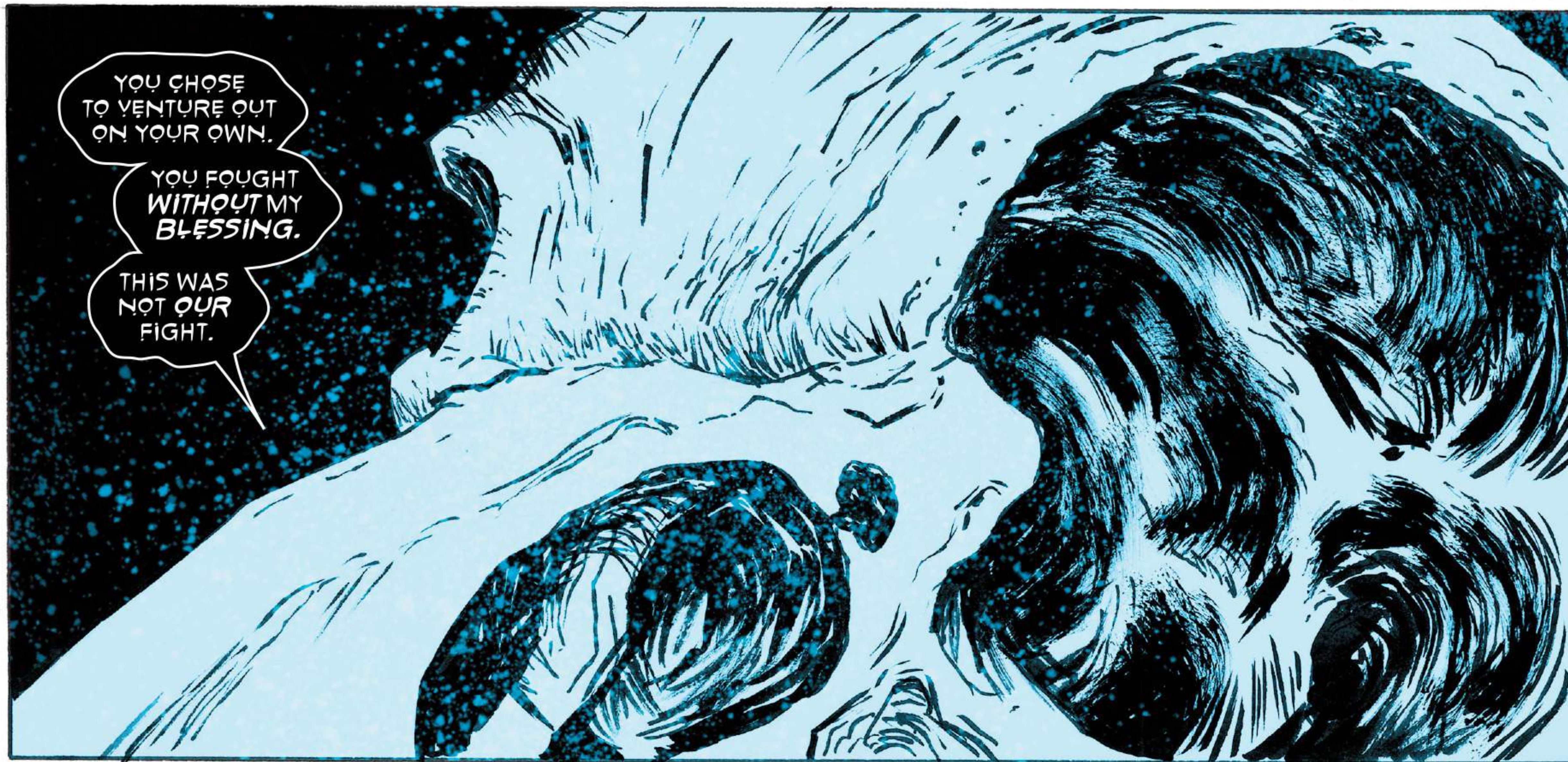
YOU ARE
STILL MY
SON.



You
could have
fooled
me.

Where were
you when I was
getting my guts
ripped out?

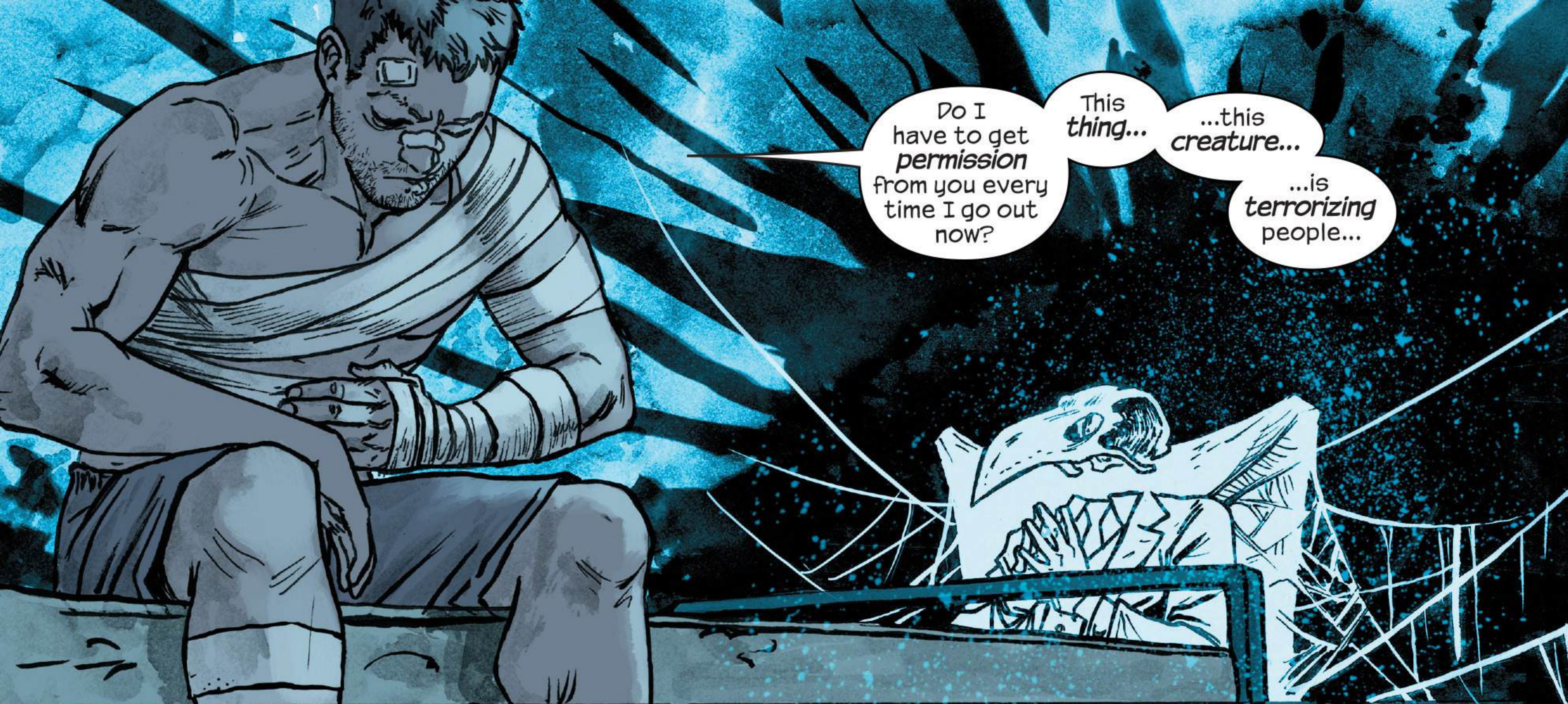
Or do you
want me to look
like one of your
mummies?



YOU CHOSE
TO VENTURE OUT
ON YOUR OWN.

YOU FOUGHT
WITHOUT MY
BLESSING.

THIS WAS
NOT OUR
FIGHT.



Do I
have to get
permission
from you every
time I go out
now?

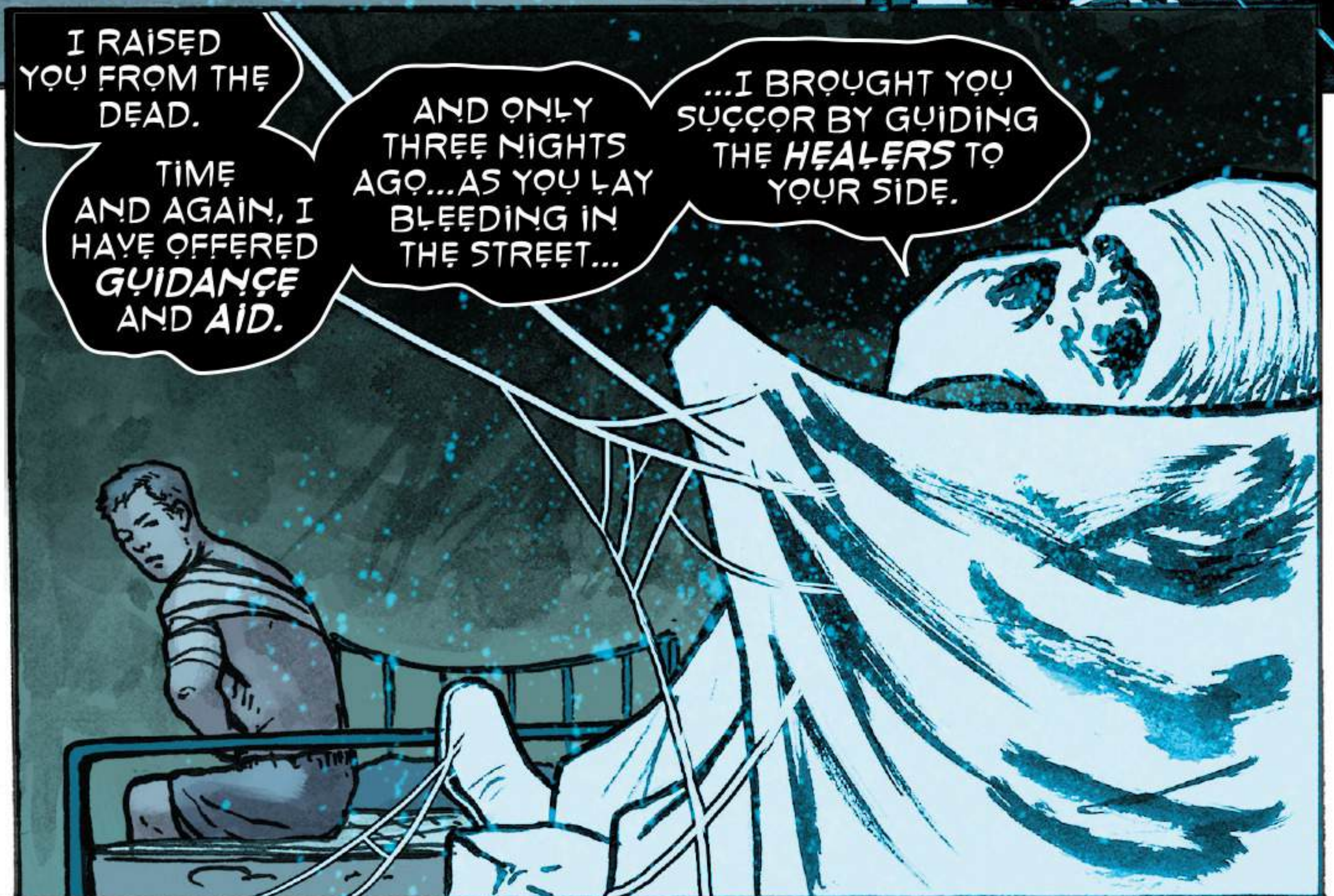
This
thing...

...this
creature...

...is
terrorizing
people...



...hurting
children.



I RAISED
YOU FROM THE
DEAD.

TIME
AND AGAIN, I
HAVE OFFERED
GUIDANCE
AND AID.

AND ONLY
THREE NIGHTS
AGO...AS YOU LAY
BLEEDING IN
THE STREET...

...I BROUGHT YOU
SUCCOR BY GUIDING
THE **HEALERS** TO
YOUR SIDE.



BUT
IF YOU
DEFY ME
AGAIN...

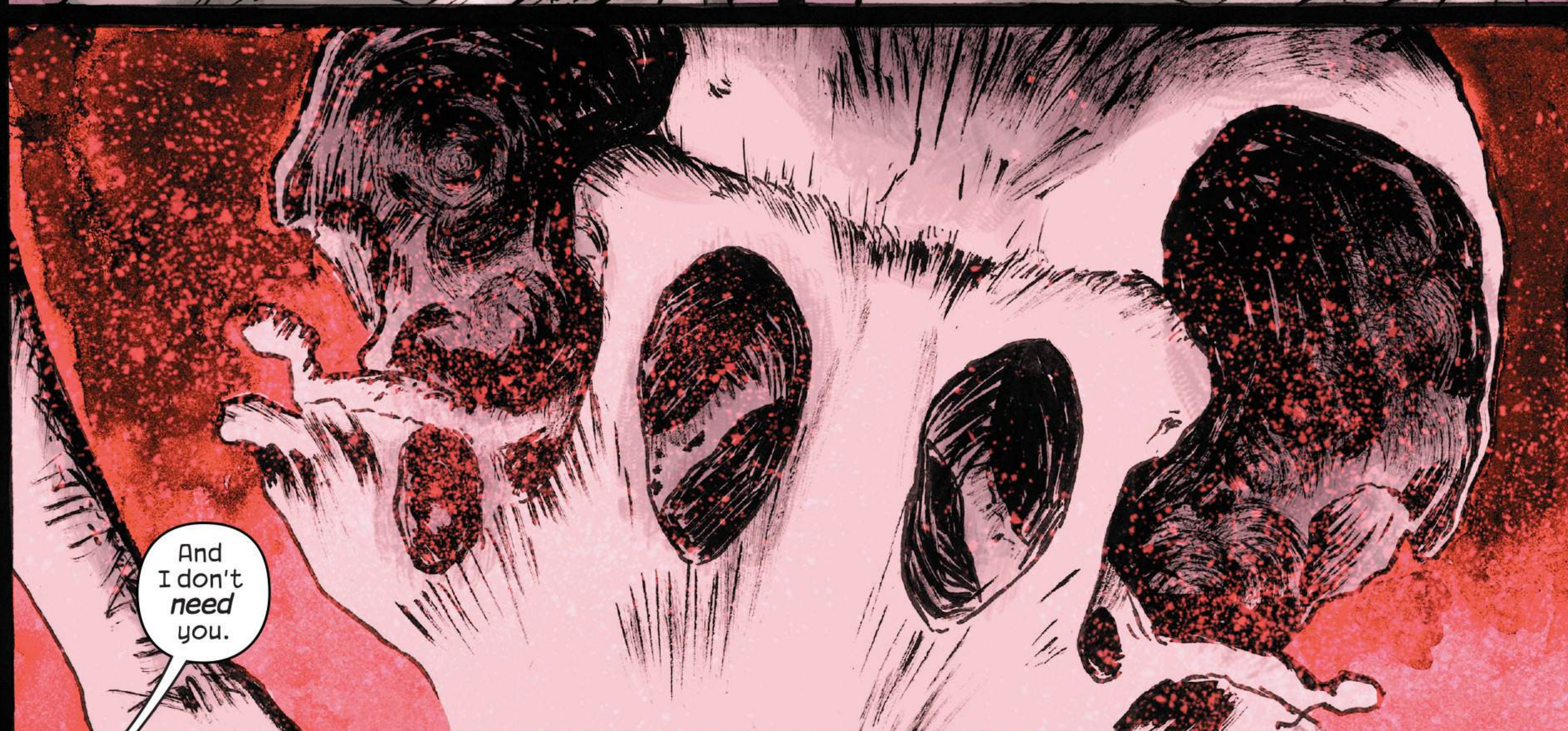
...I
CANNOT
HELP
YOU.



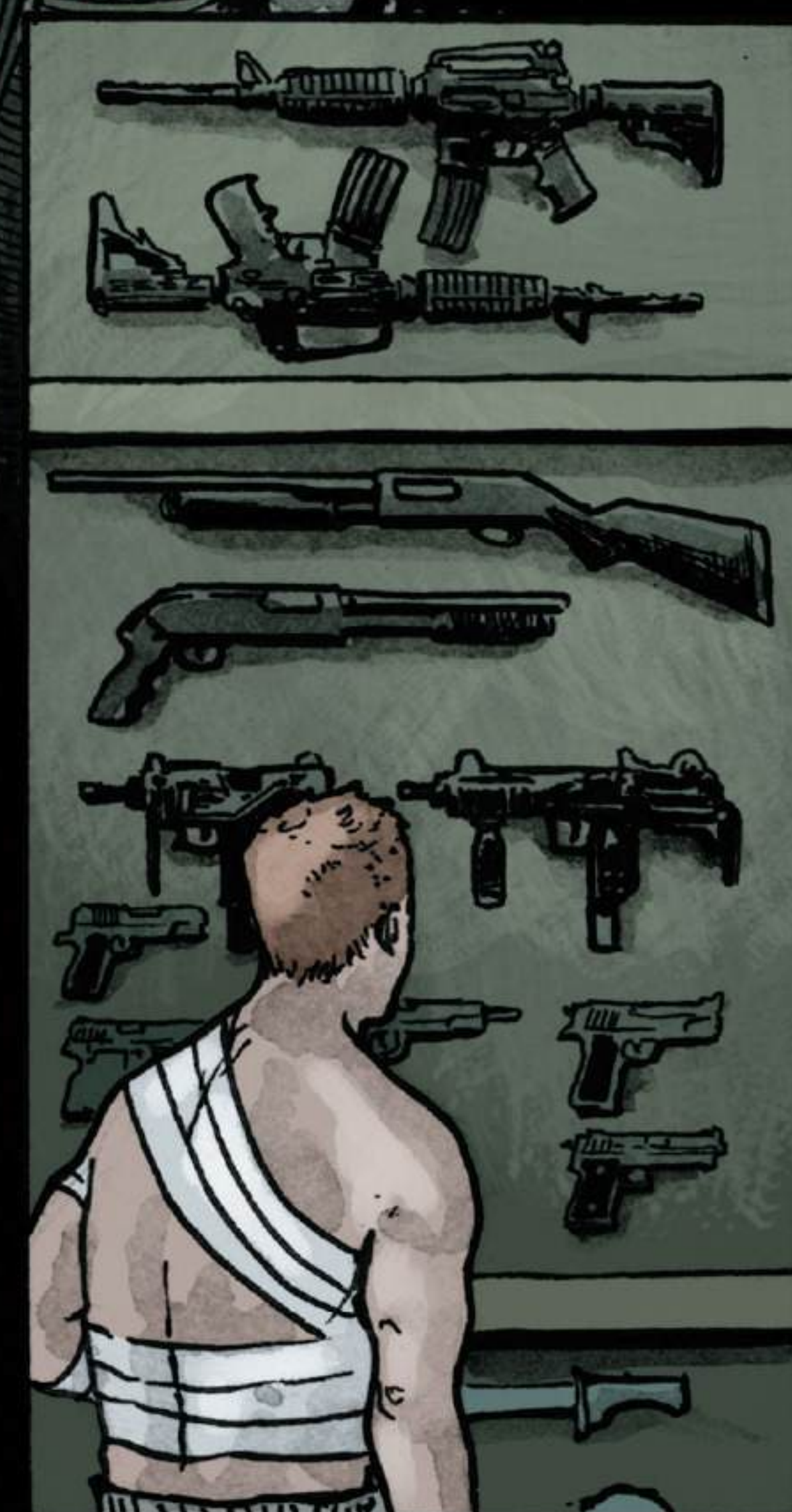
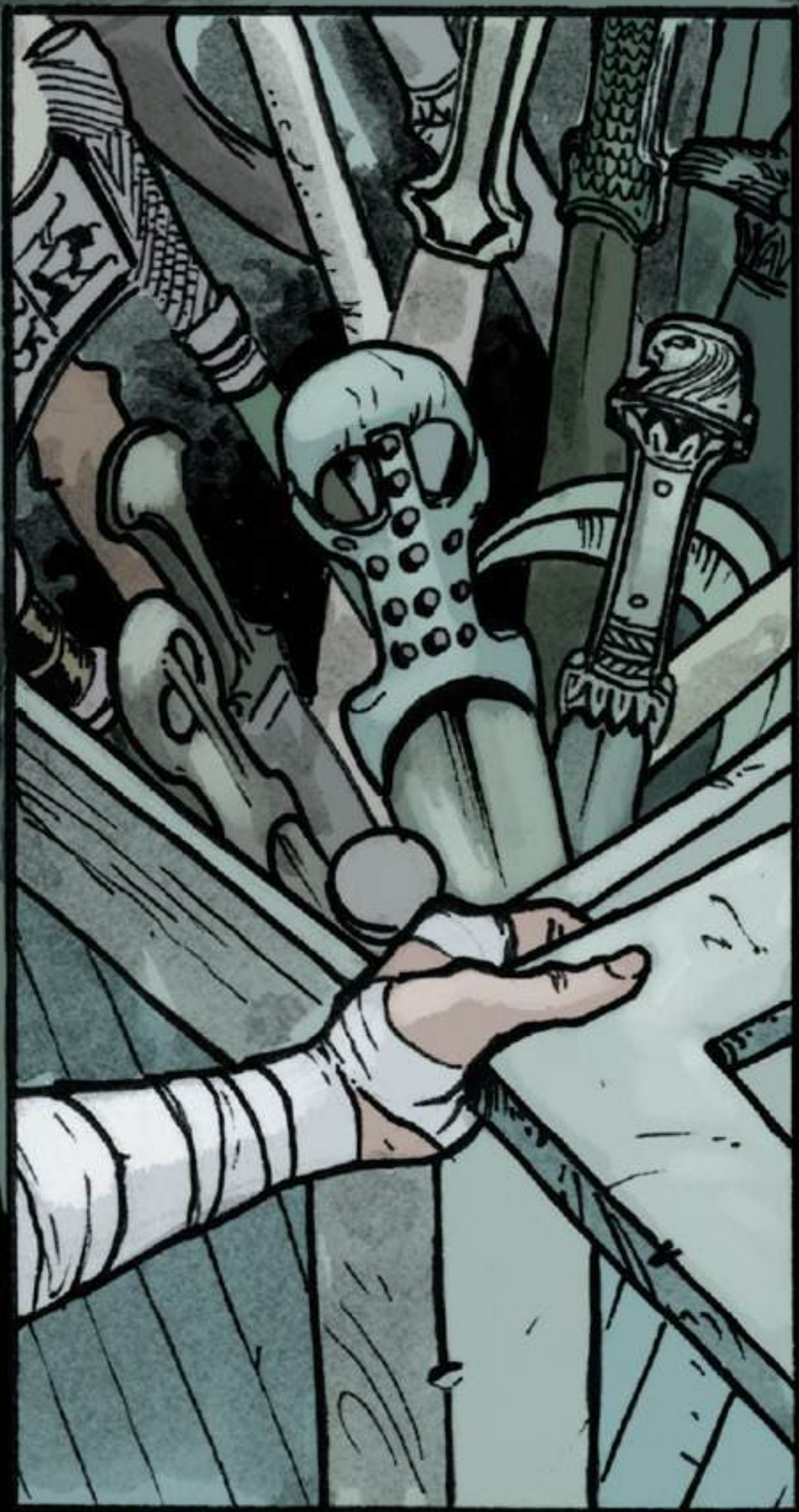
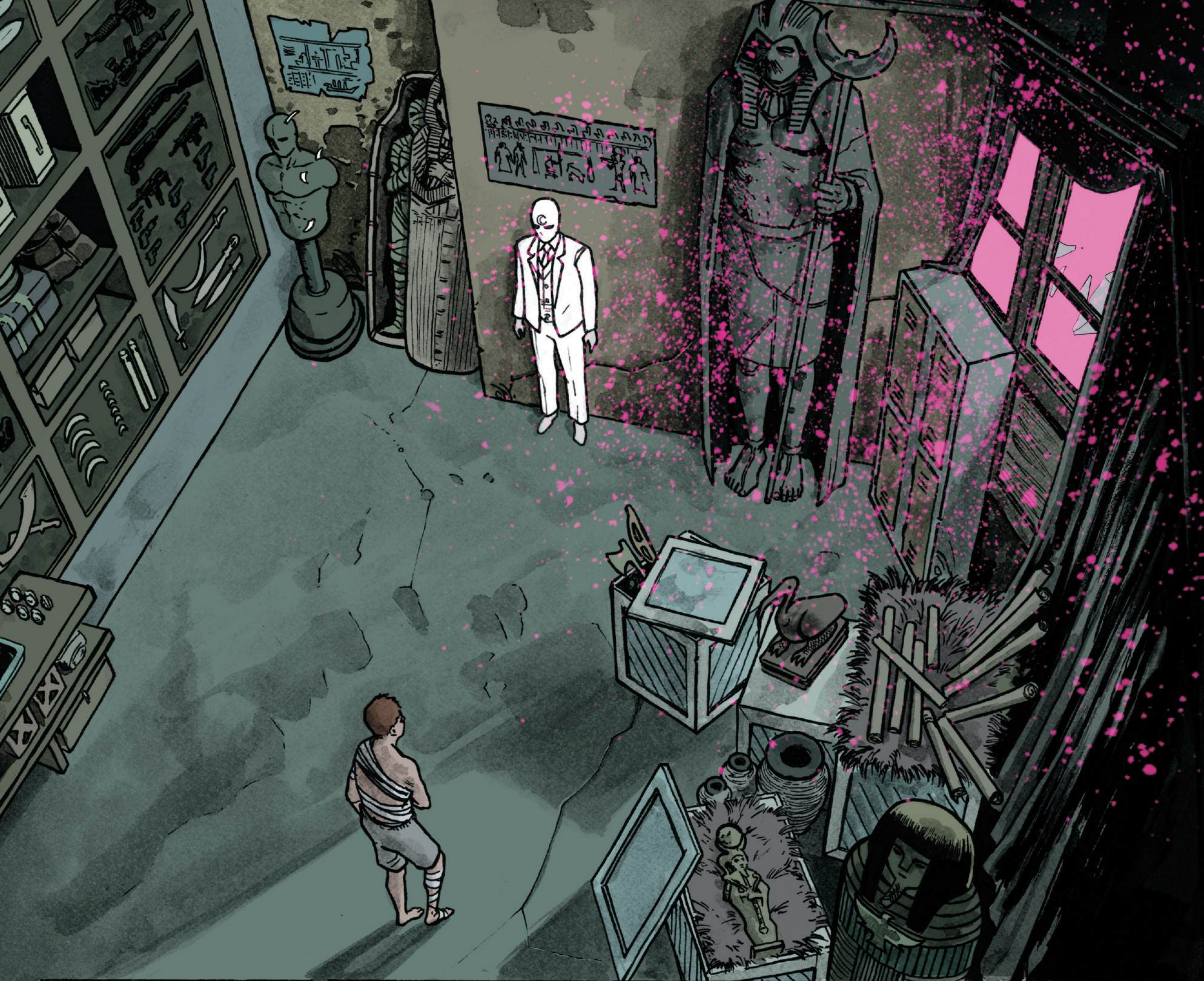
Can't?



Or
won't?









Are you
afraid?



It's *all*
right to be
scared.

All the
others were
afraid,
too.

When I
came for
them...

...from their
closets...

...from
under their
beds...

...they were
terrified.



And it
made them
taste *so much*
better.



Soon...I'll
be moving
on.

All the
other children
have left this
place.

I suppose
your parents
didn't want to
move.

Maybe
they didn't
believe.



But they
will, come
morning.



I'll
be long
gone...

...searching
for another
crop of blood and
bone and gristle to
harvest...

...but
it will be
too late
for you.



You'll just
be the remnants
of a *snack* I pick
from my teeth as
I travel to the
next hunting
ground.

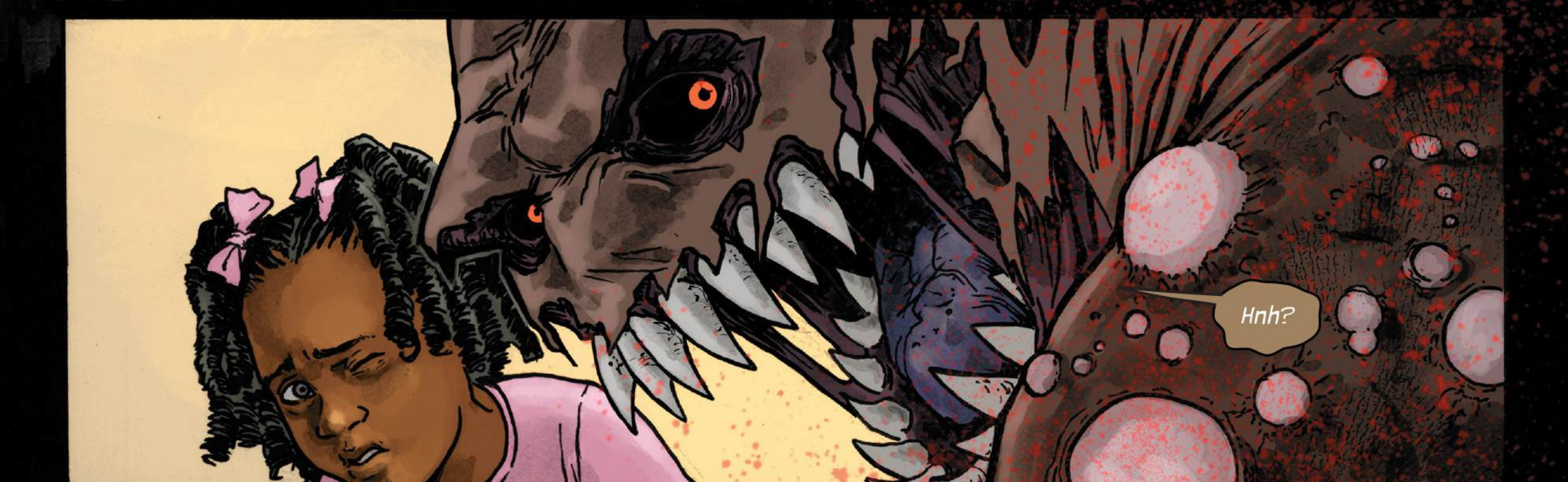


If it's any
consolation...

...I'm
sorry it
has to be
this way...

...but I
just can't *help*
myself...

...not
when the
hunger
is so--



Hnh?

BRAKKA-BRAKKA-BRAKKA-BRAKKA



BRAKKA-BRAKKA-BRAKKA



Hrrrghh...



You're okay.

Not a scratch on you.



After all this time...





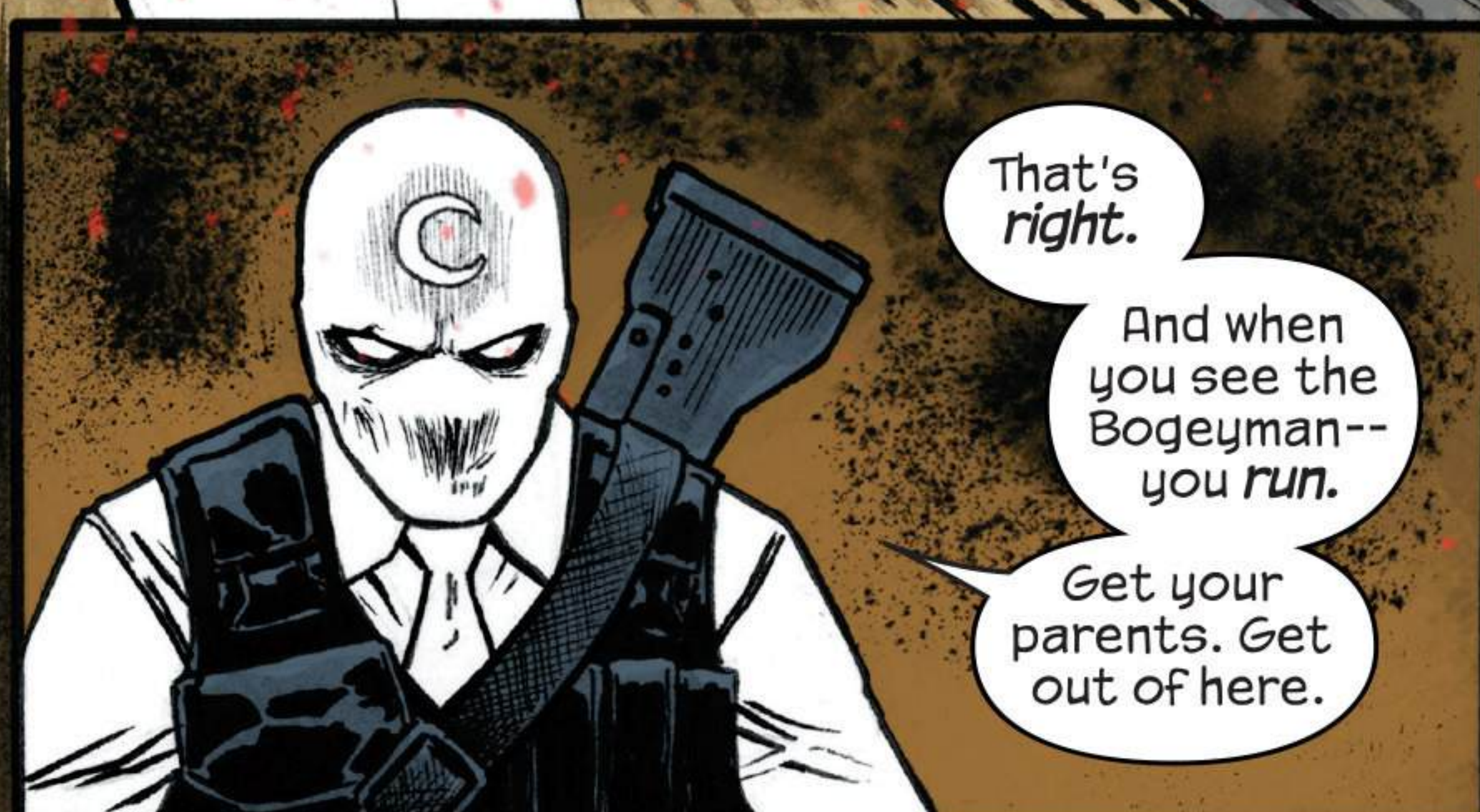
...I'm still a pretty good shot.



A...

...another one...

...another bogeyman...



That's right.

And when you see the Bogeyman-- you run.

Get your parents. Get out of here.



Don't come back until morning.





RAAAGGHH!



BRAKKA-
BRAKKA-
BRAKKA



UNNF!

THRACK



Hhkkkgk...

BLAM
BLAM
B-BLAM
BLAM

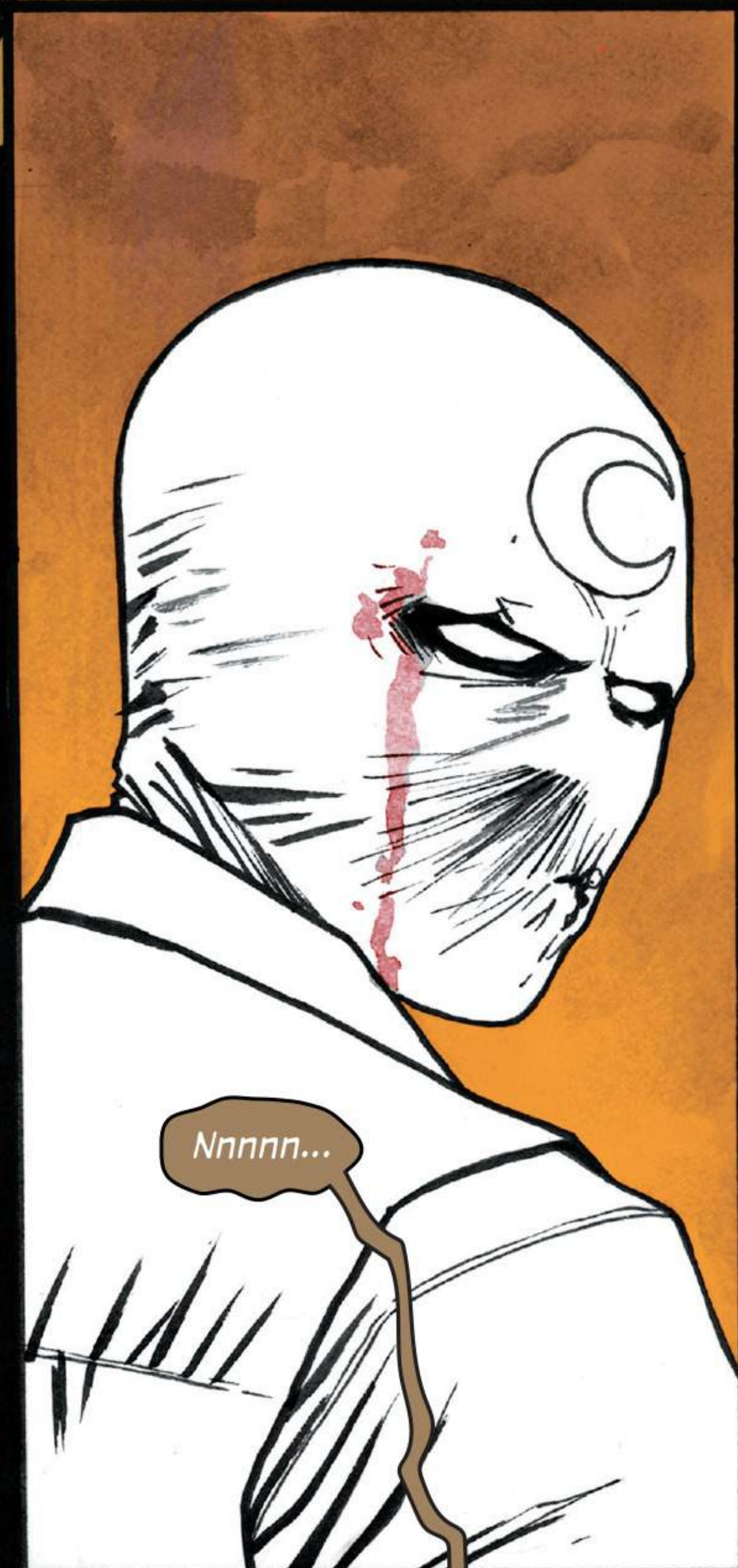
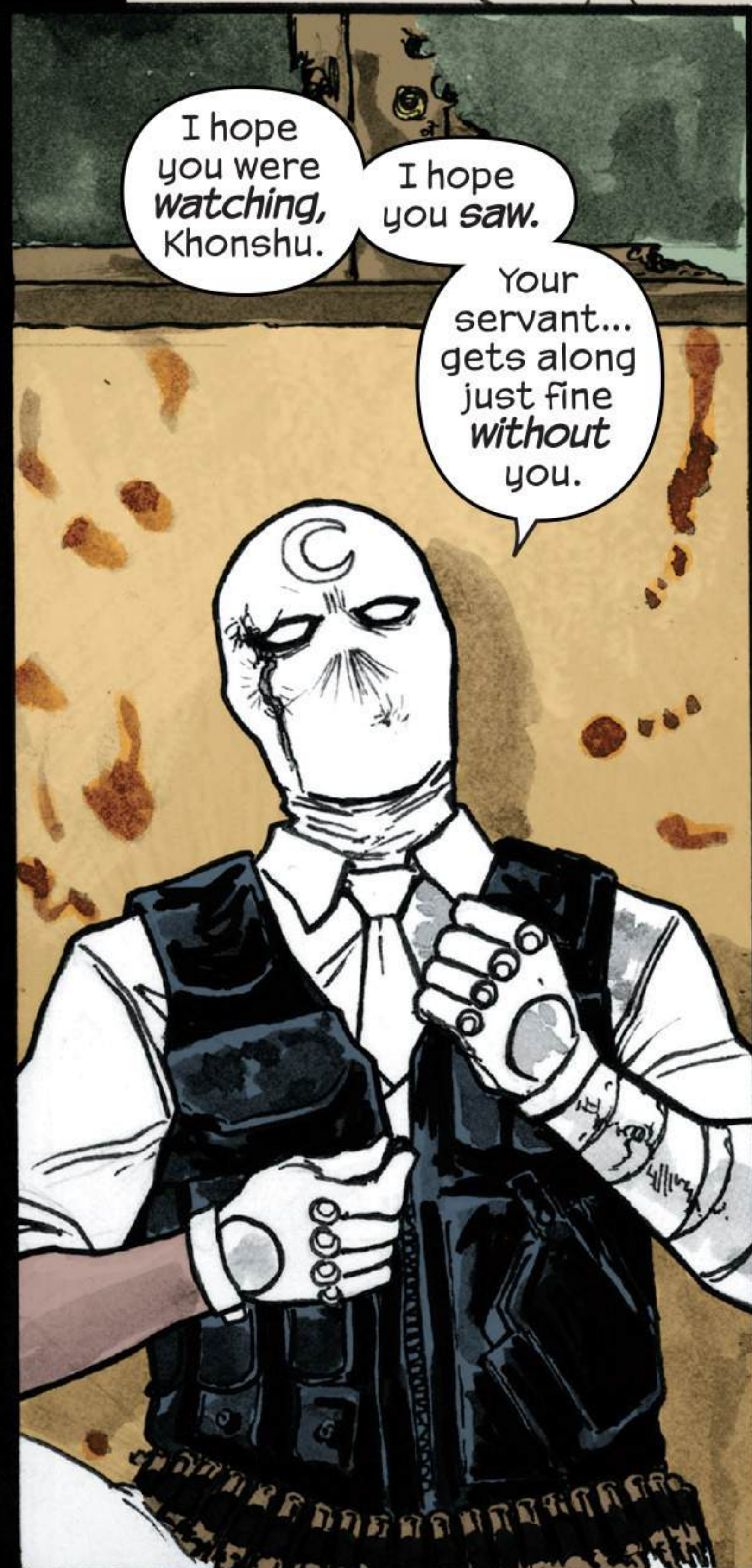


N-No.
Not
like this.

R-Run.

Get
away.

No.
You're
not going
anywhere.





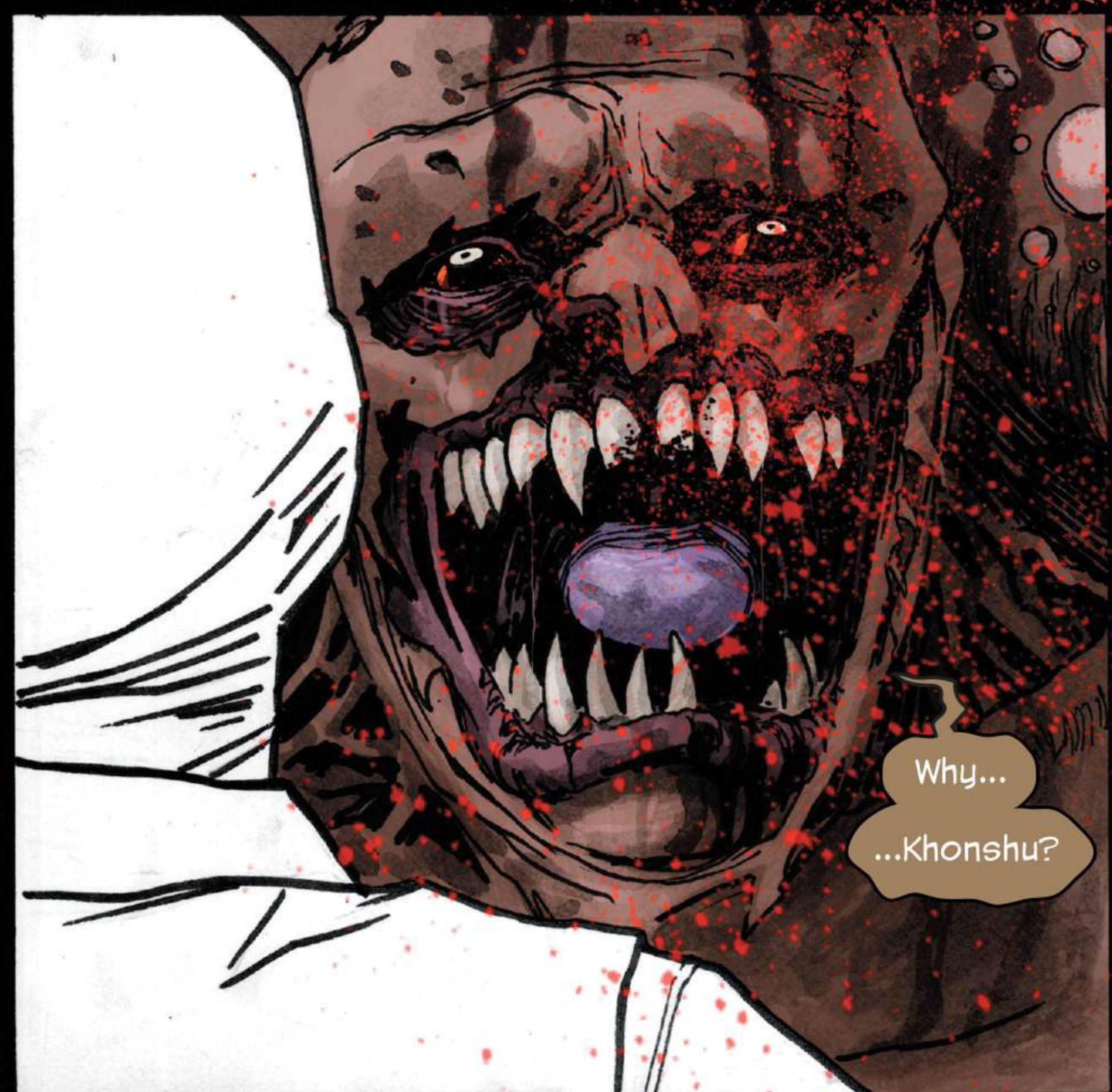
Hhhhh...

Did you say something?



Go ahead.

Spit it out.

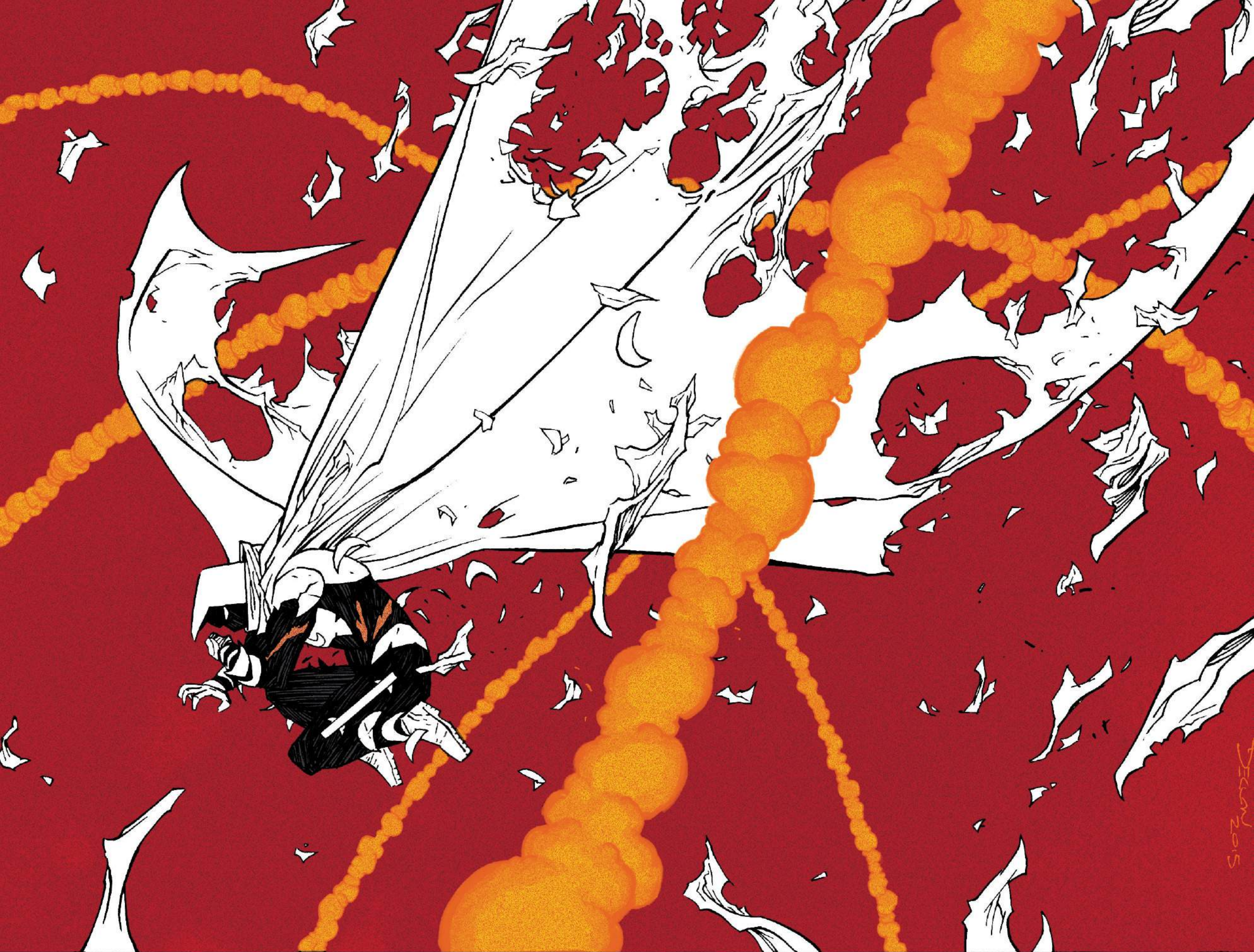


Why...

...Khonshu?



Why have you forsaken me?



MOON KNIGHT™

CULLEN BUNN • GERMAN PERALTA • DAN BROWN

MARVEL

016



MOON KNIGHT

"ANGELS"





The guy was, like... singing to me as I placed the order.

I don't even know how to react to something like--



W-where'd they go?





All right,
team.

Let's take
the *payload* to
the *nest*.

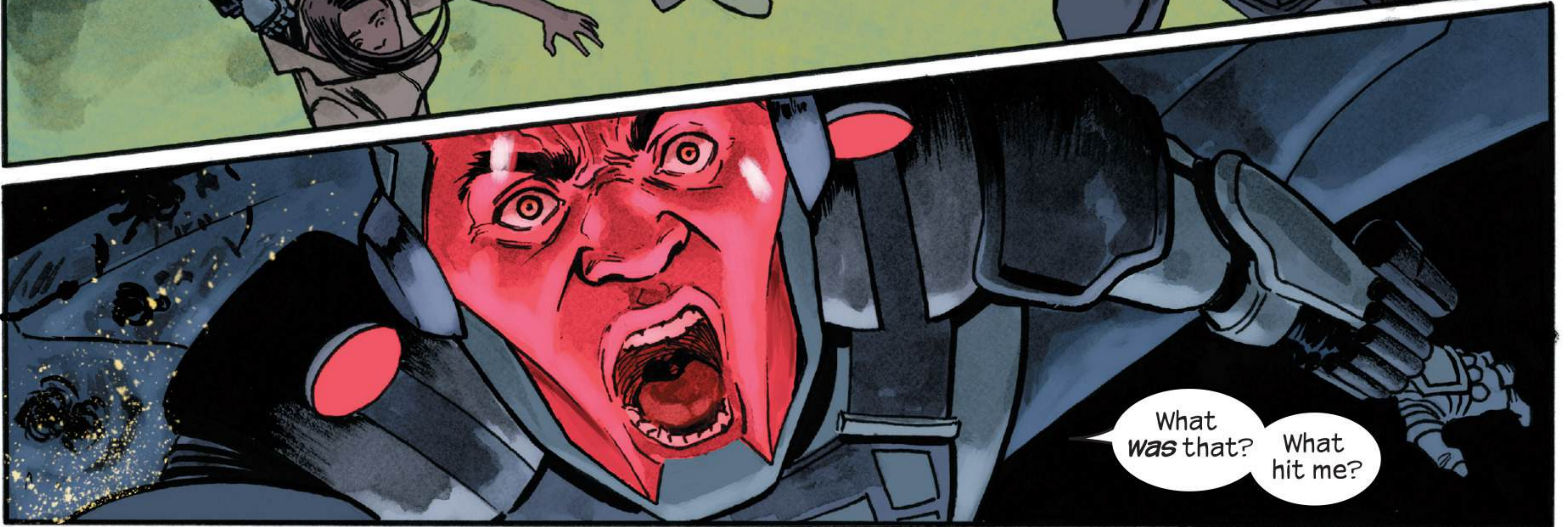


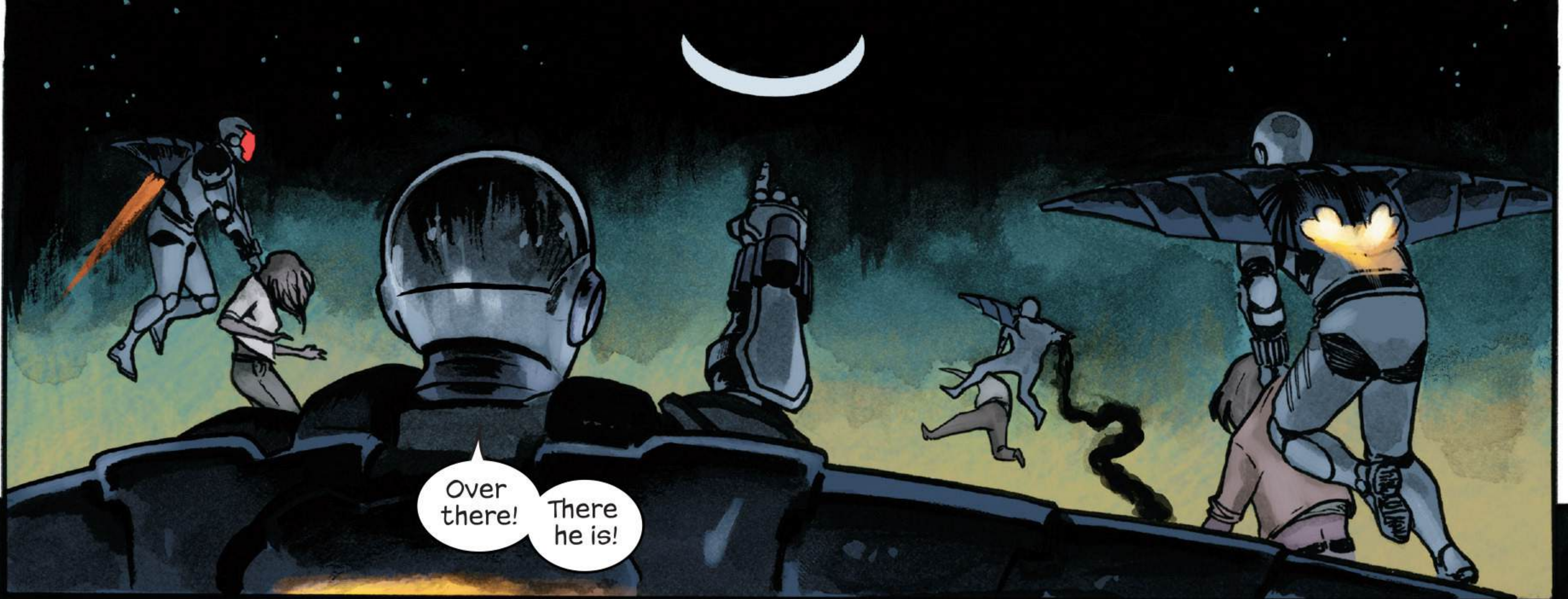
Stop
squirming
and kicking,
dammit!

Be still
or I swear I'll
slam you into
one of these
buildings!



And
then you're
of no use
to--





Over there!
There he is!

"We've got an unidentified bogey"



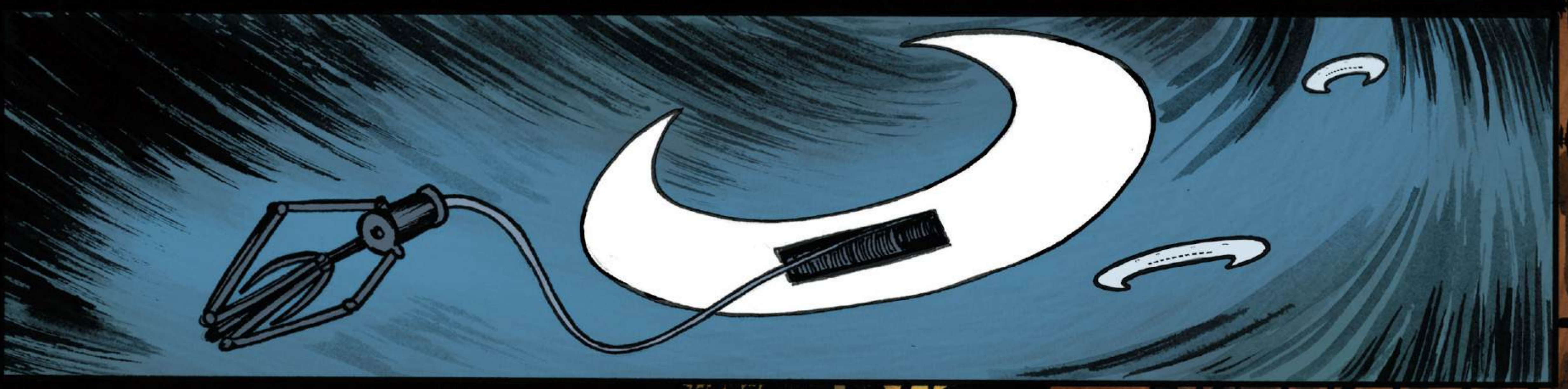
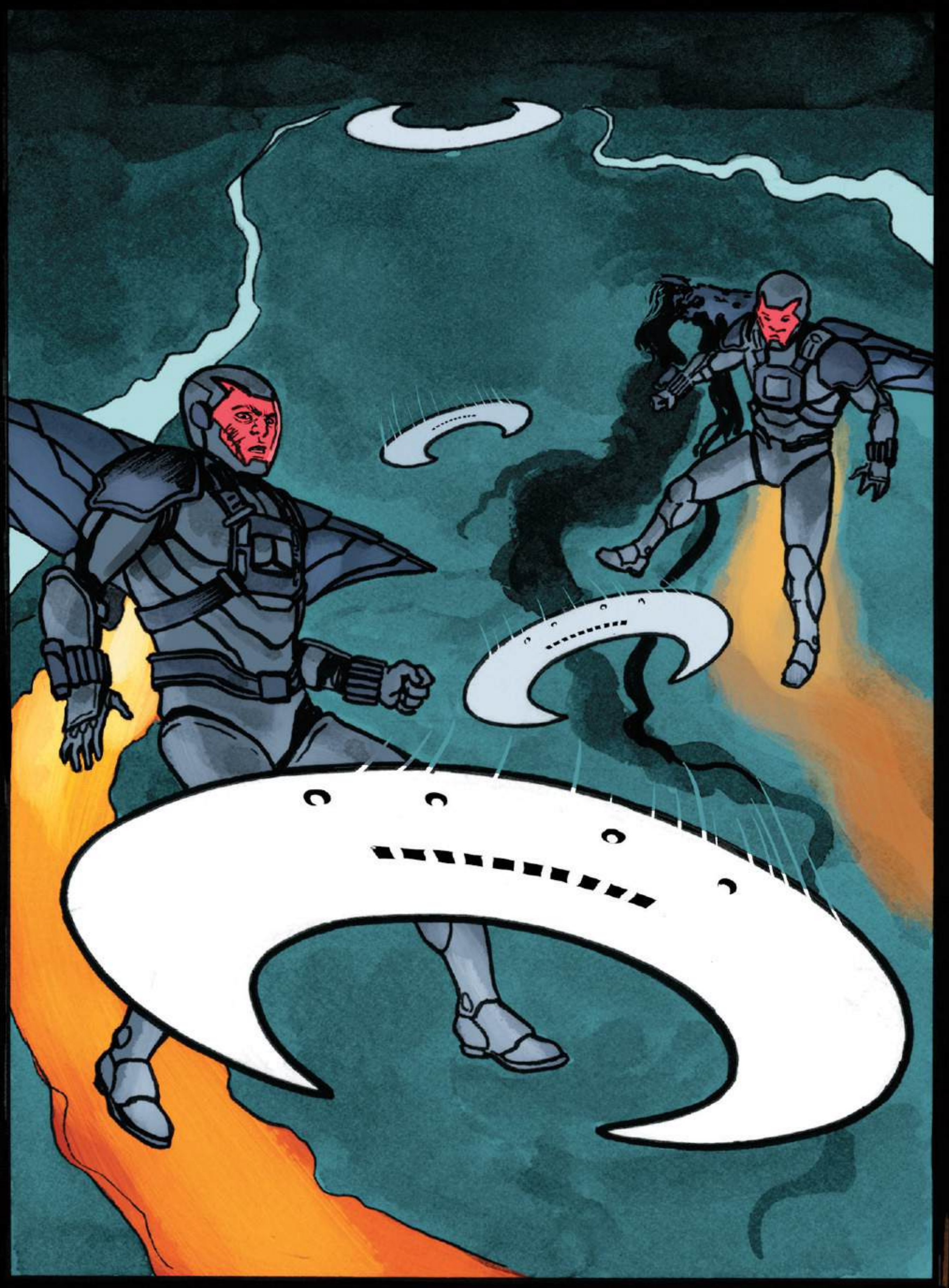
Break and drop back!
Flank him!

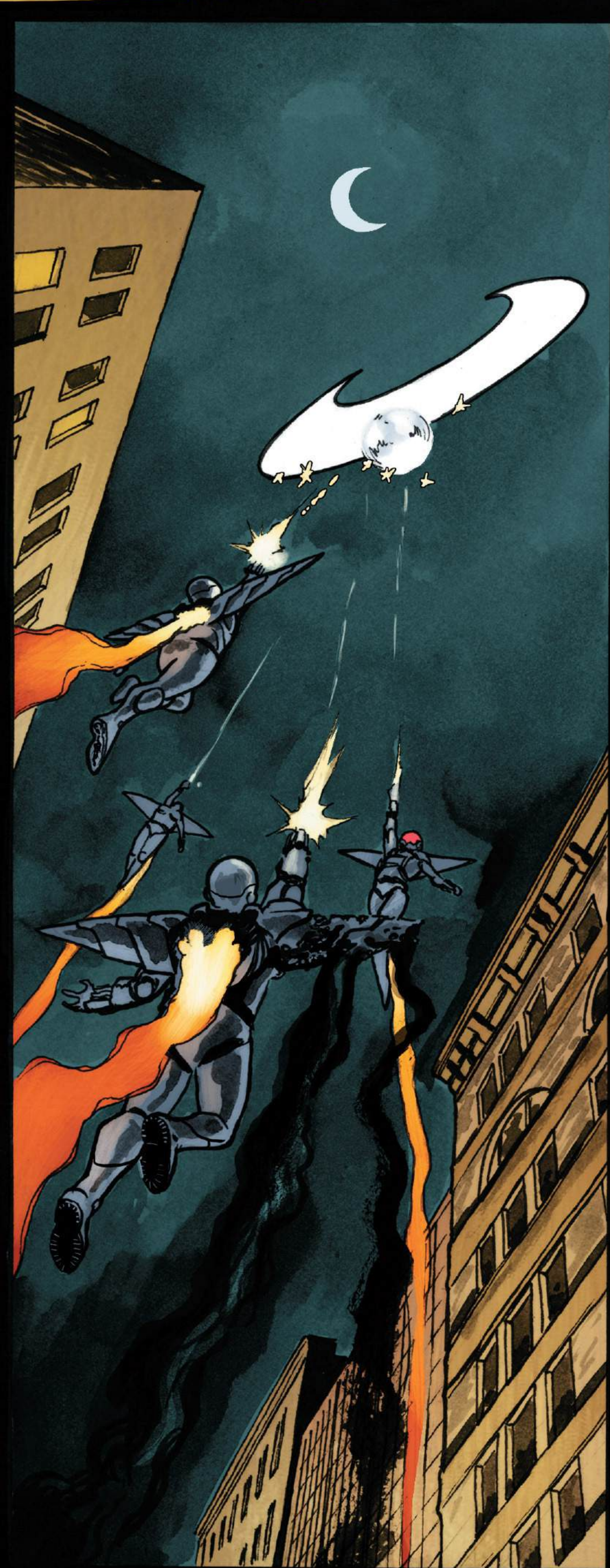


"And *drop* the payload!"

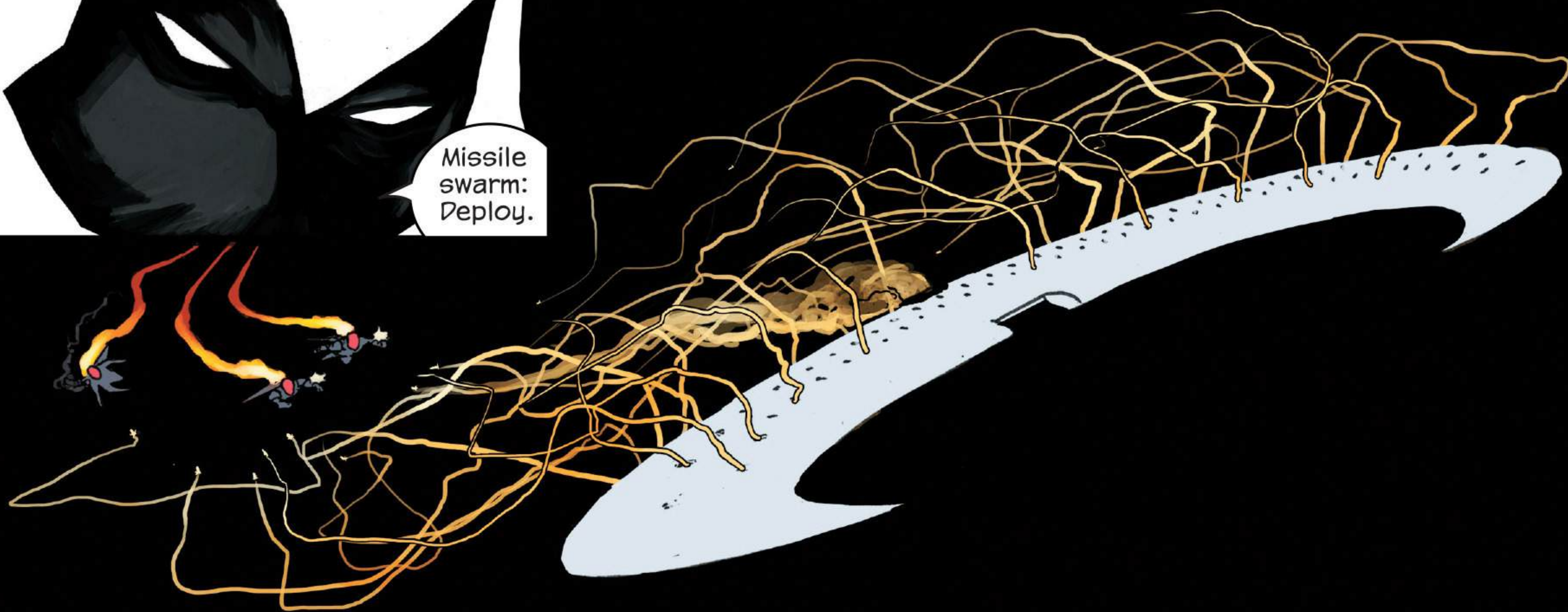
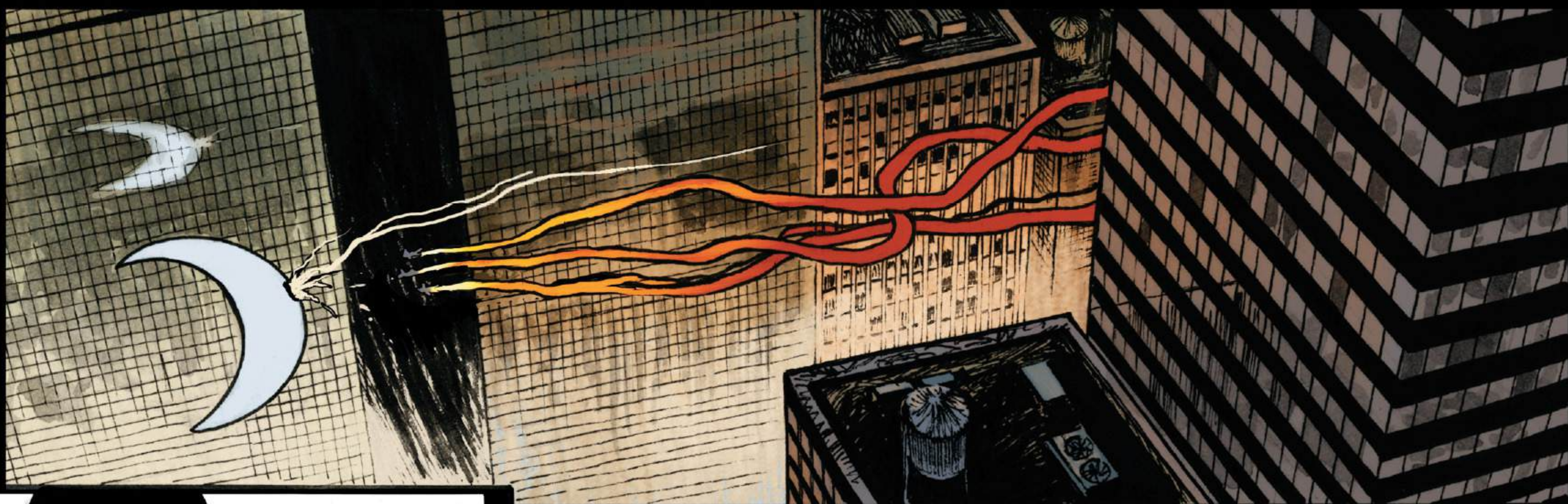
Drones two through four: Tracking mode.

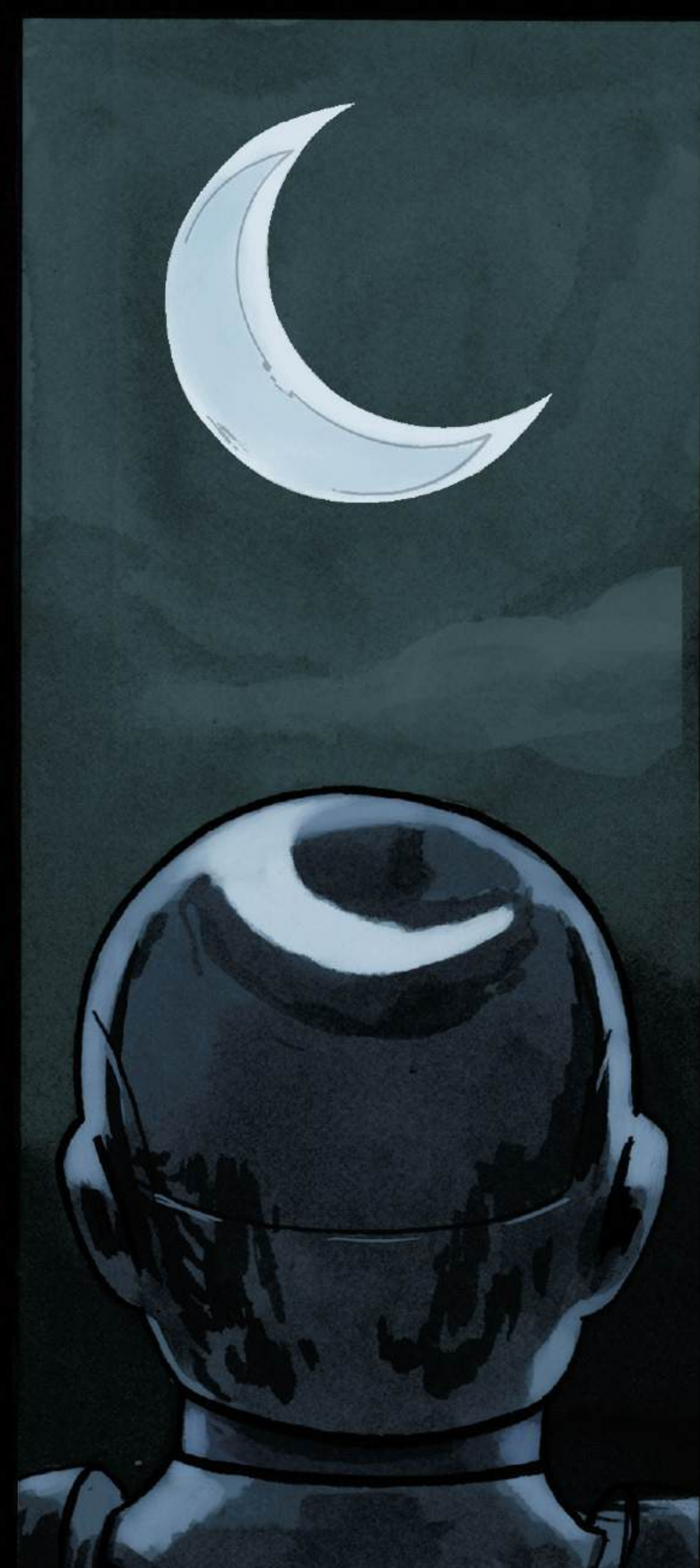
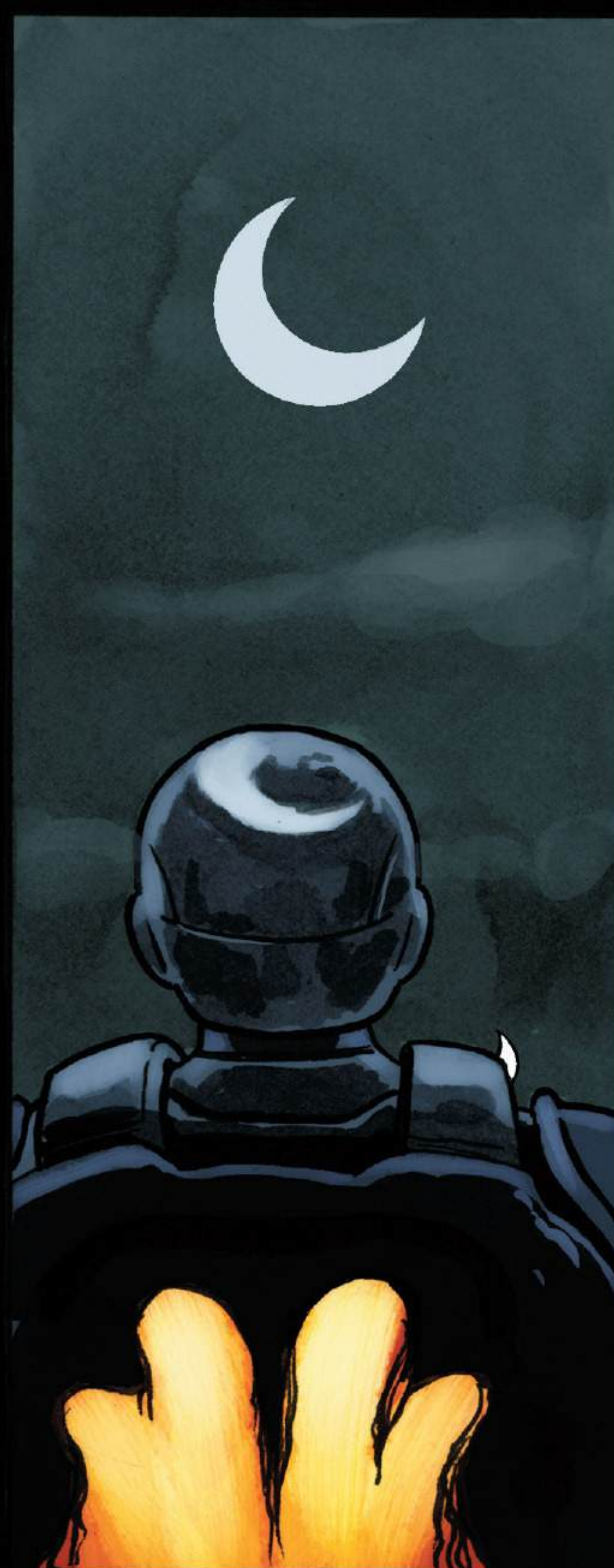
Retrieve falling targets.

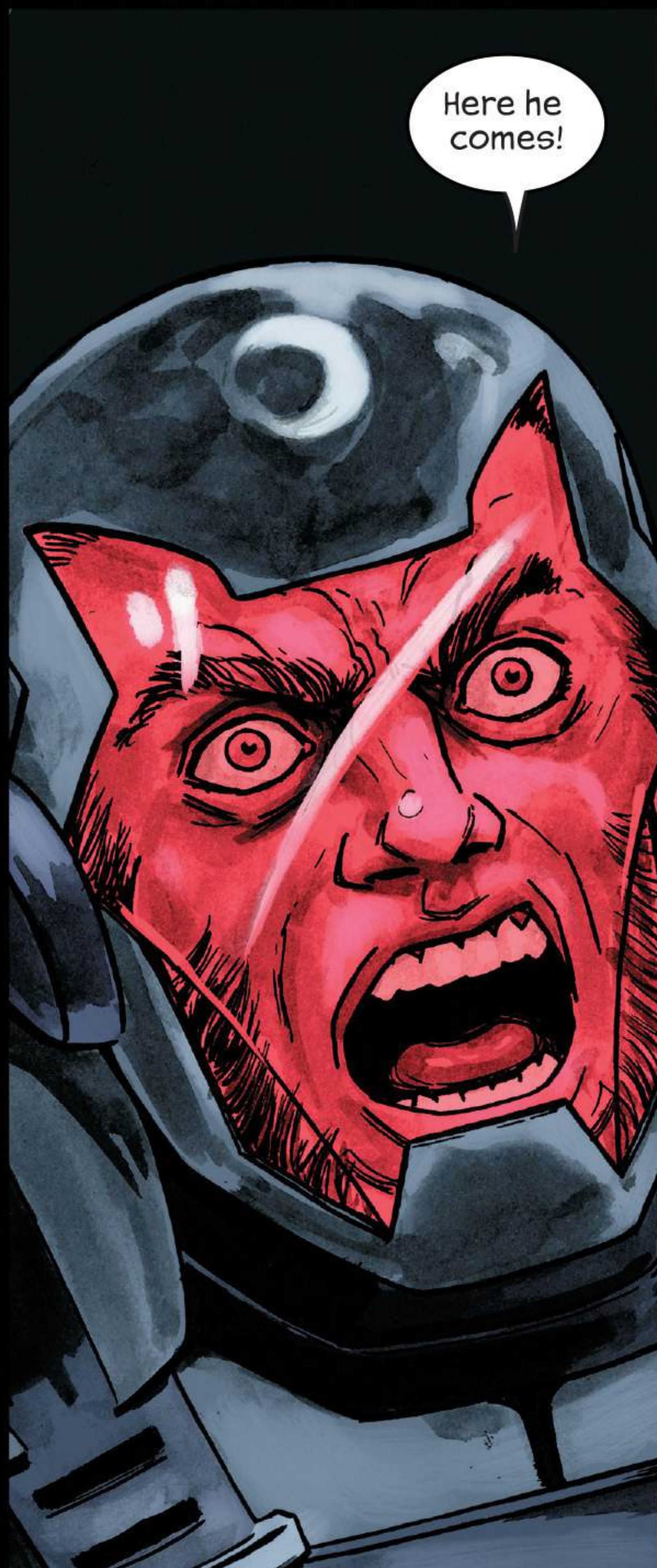
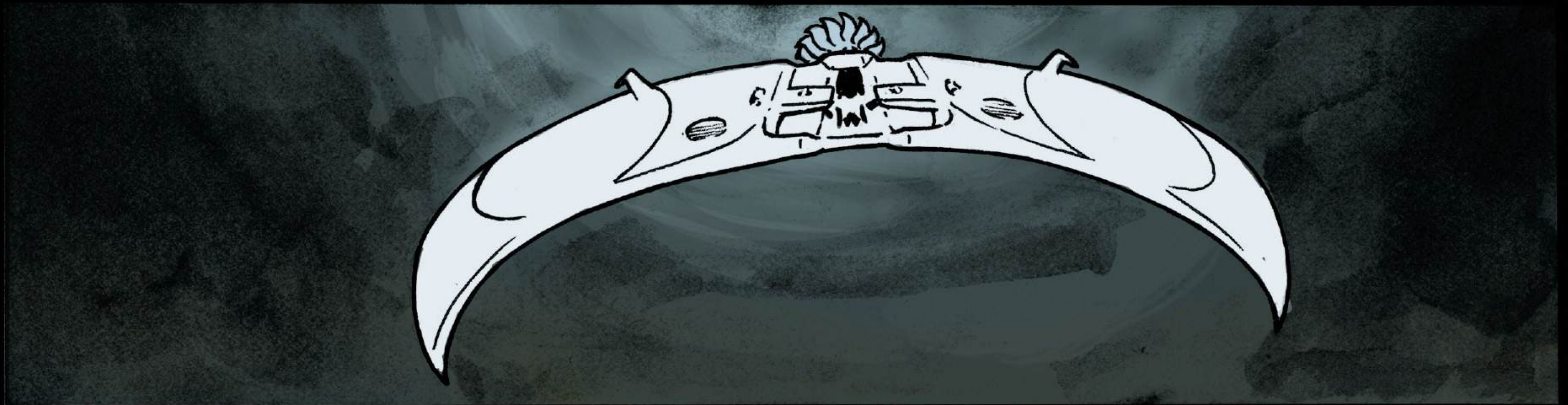




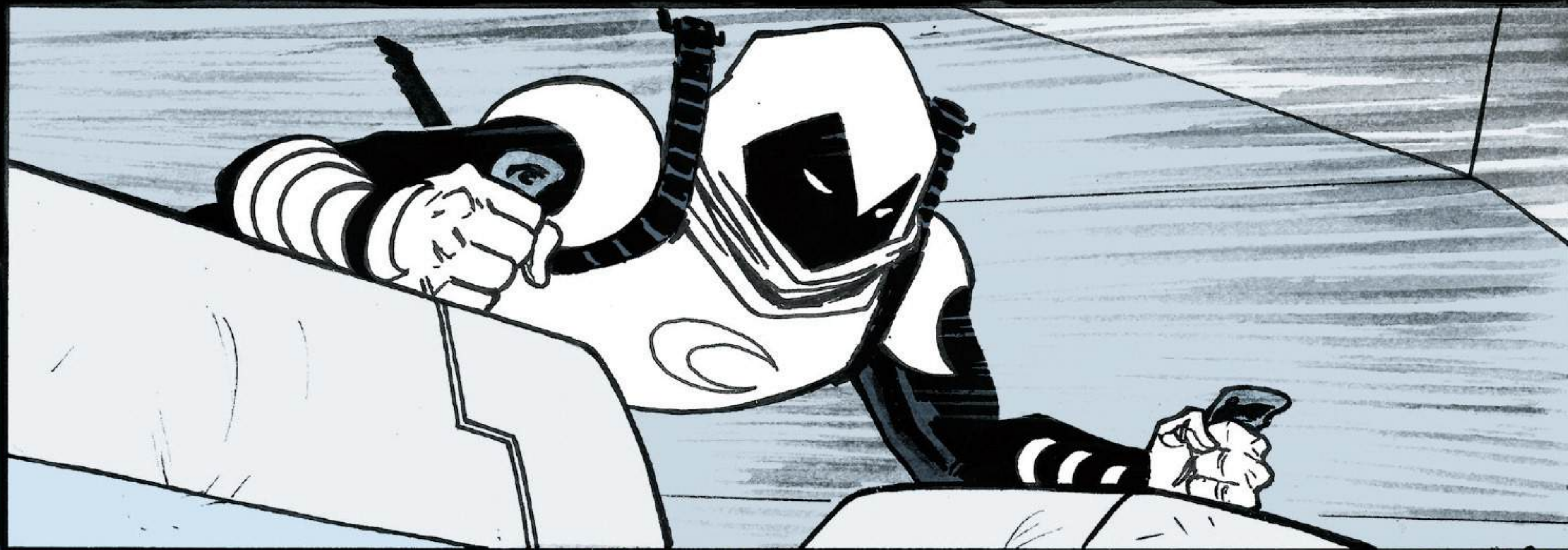




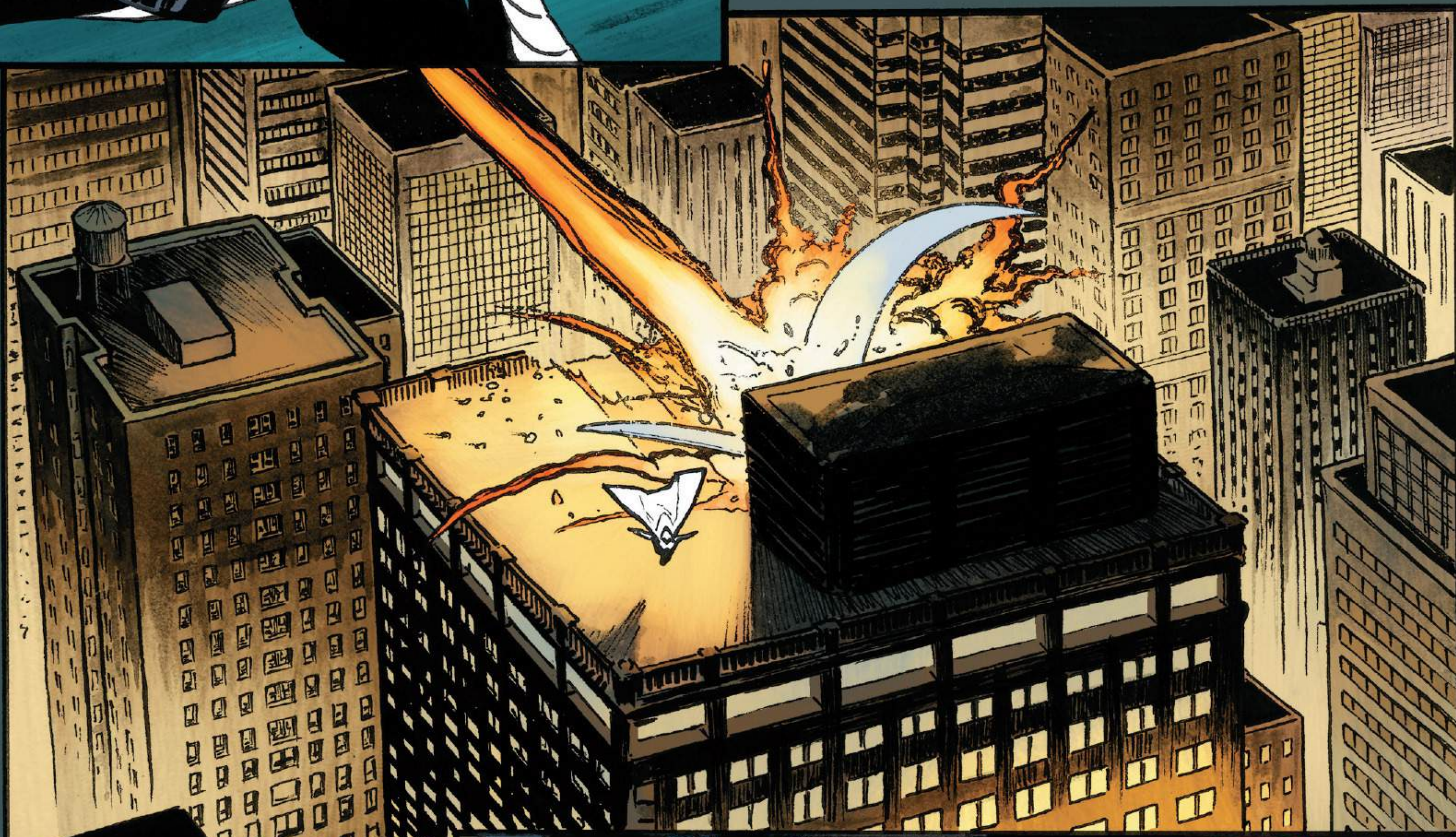








Damn. I guess this is where I get off.



Drone four: On my location.

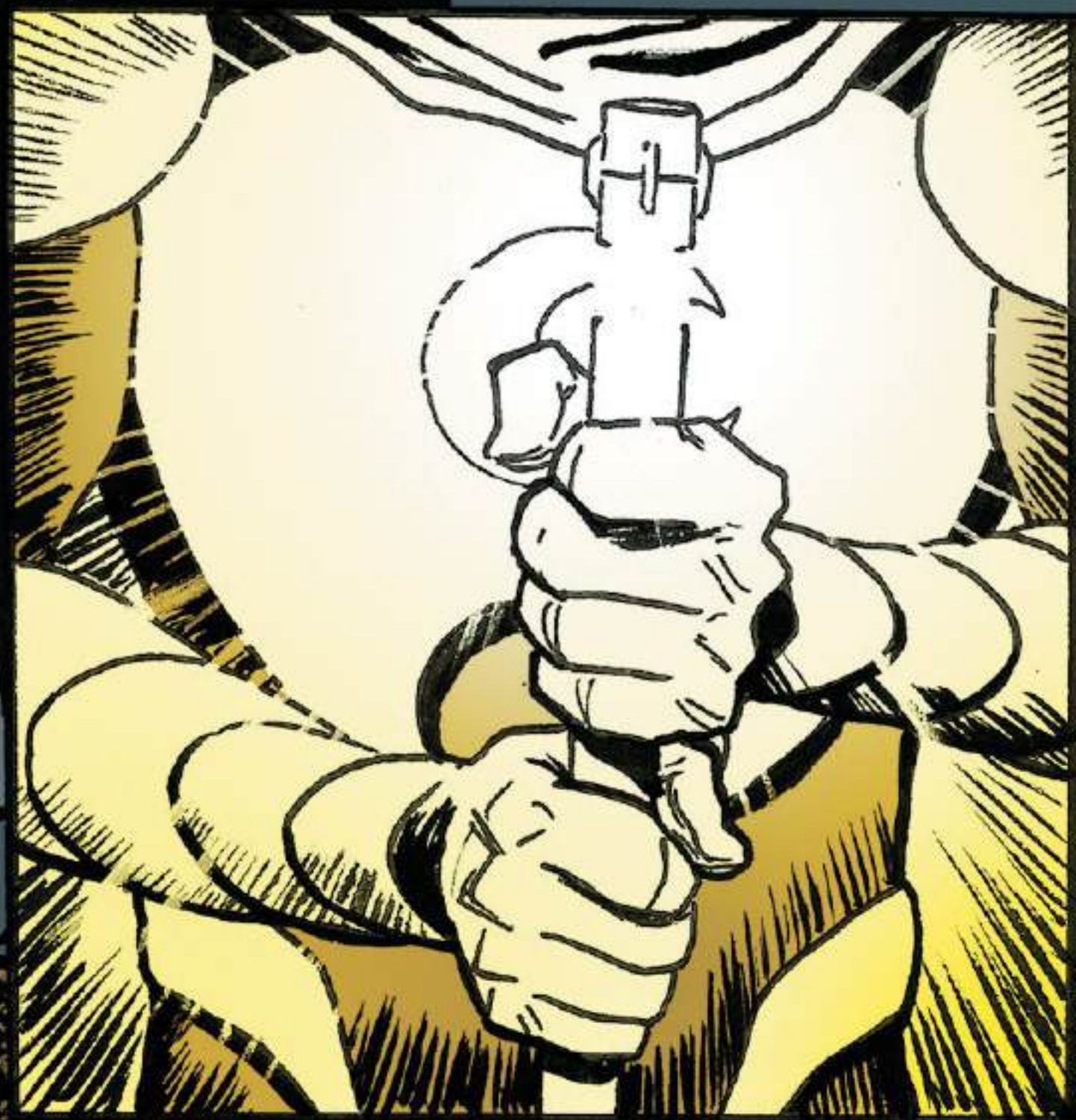
"Tracking mode."



Drone four:
Loitering mode.



I won't be long.





I'm going to *help* you.

I'm going to get you out of here.

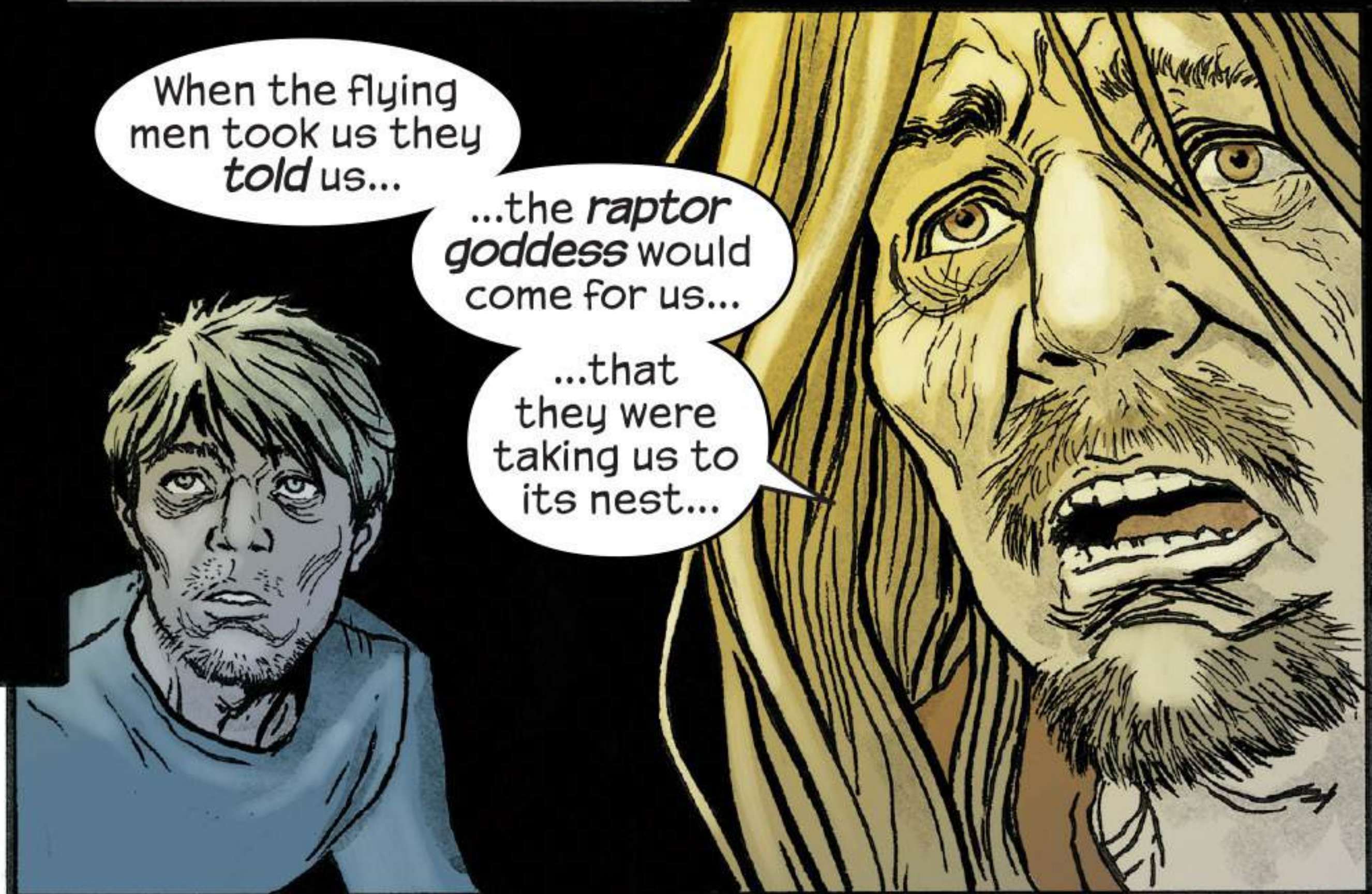


Oh Lord.

Is it you?

Have you finally come... like they said you would?

Are you here to *kill* us?



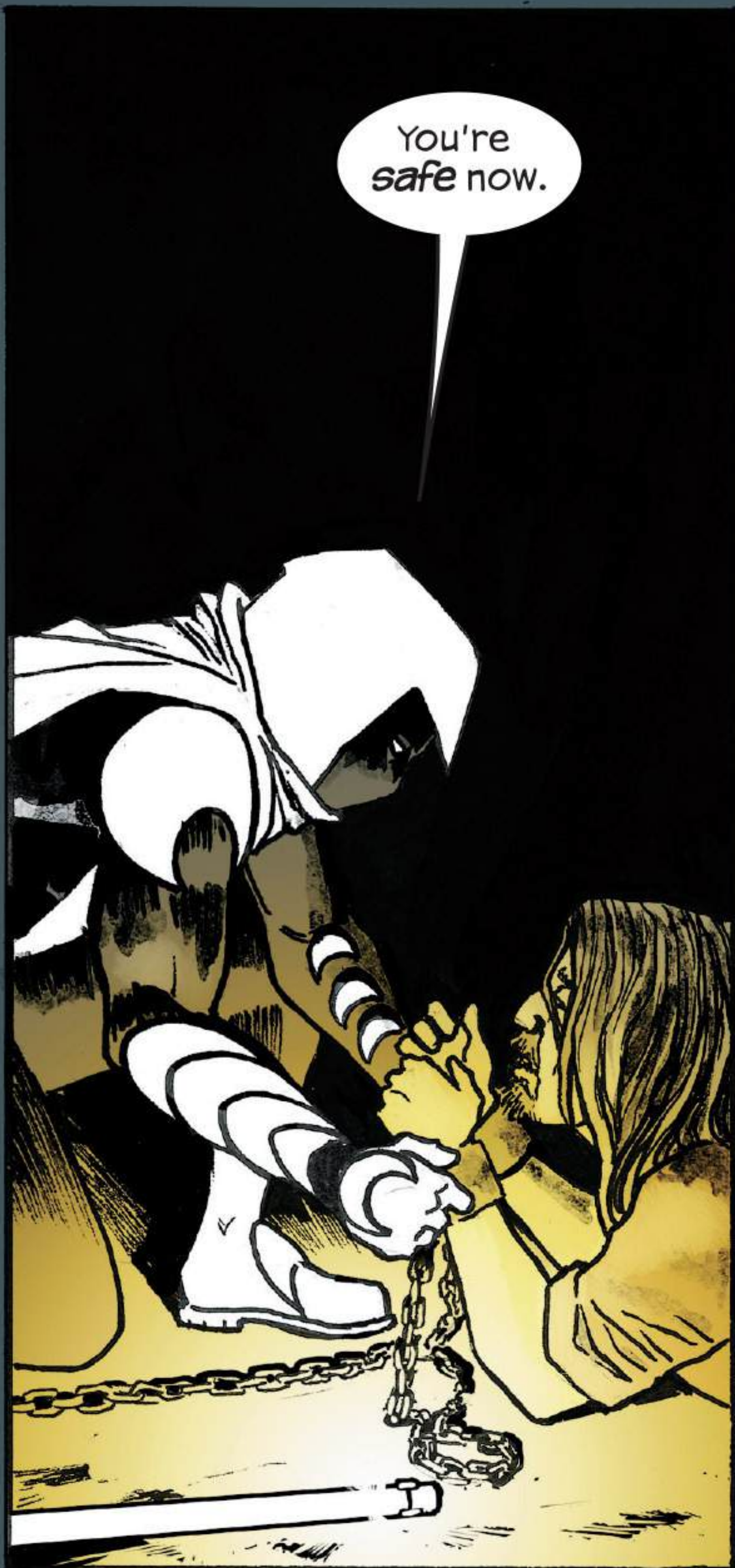
When the flying men took us they *told* us...

...the *raptor goddess* would come for us...

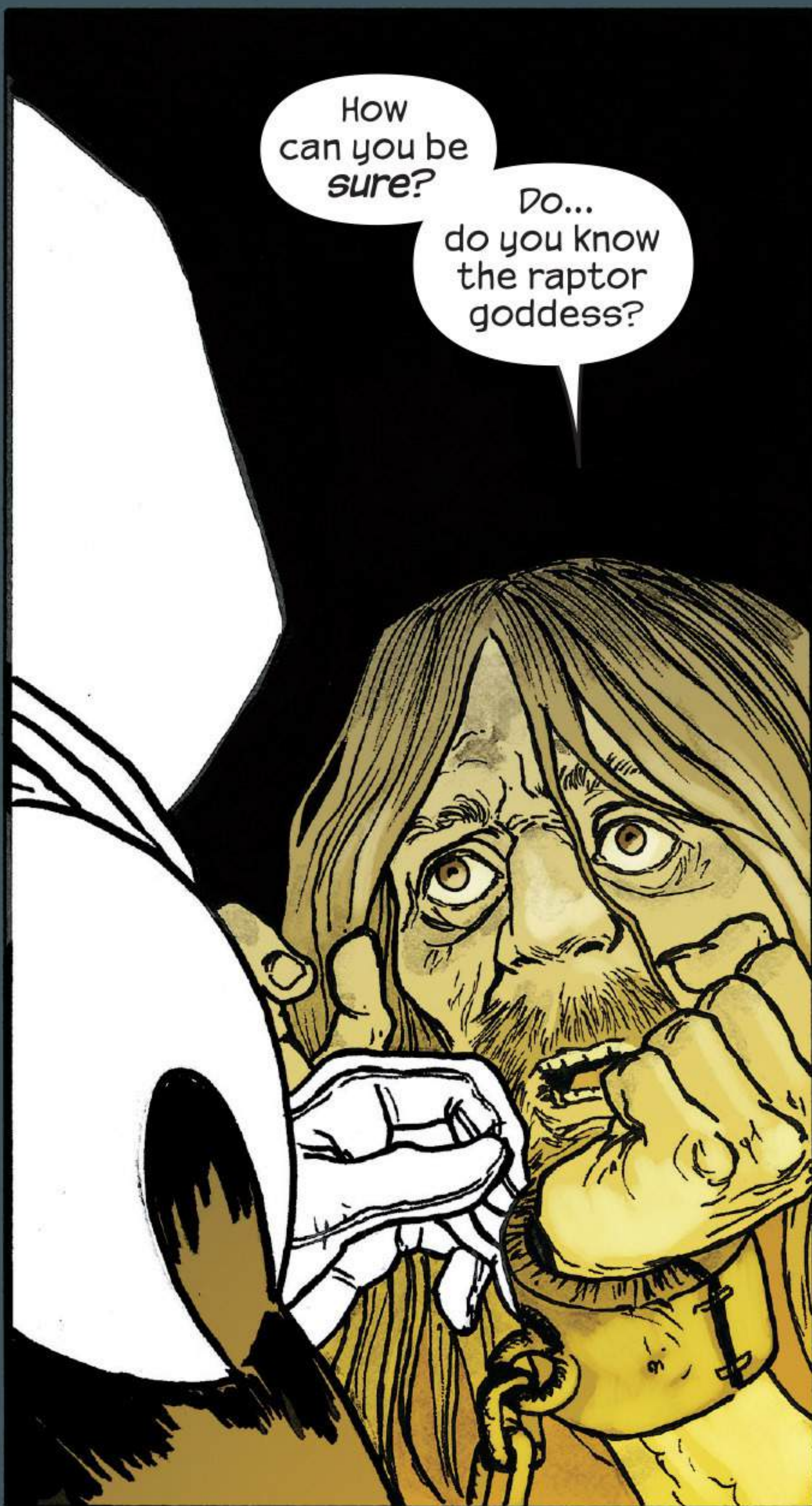
...that they were taking us to its nest...



...so that the *children* could feed the *mother* for a change.

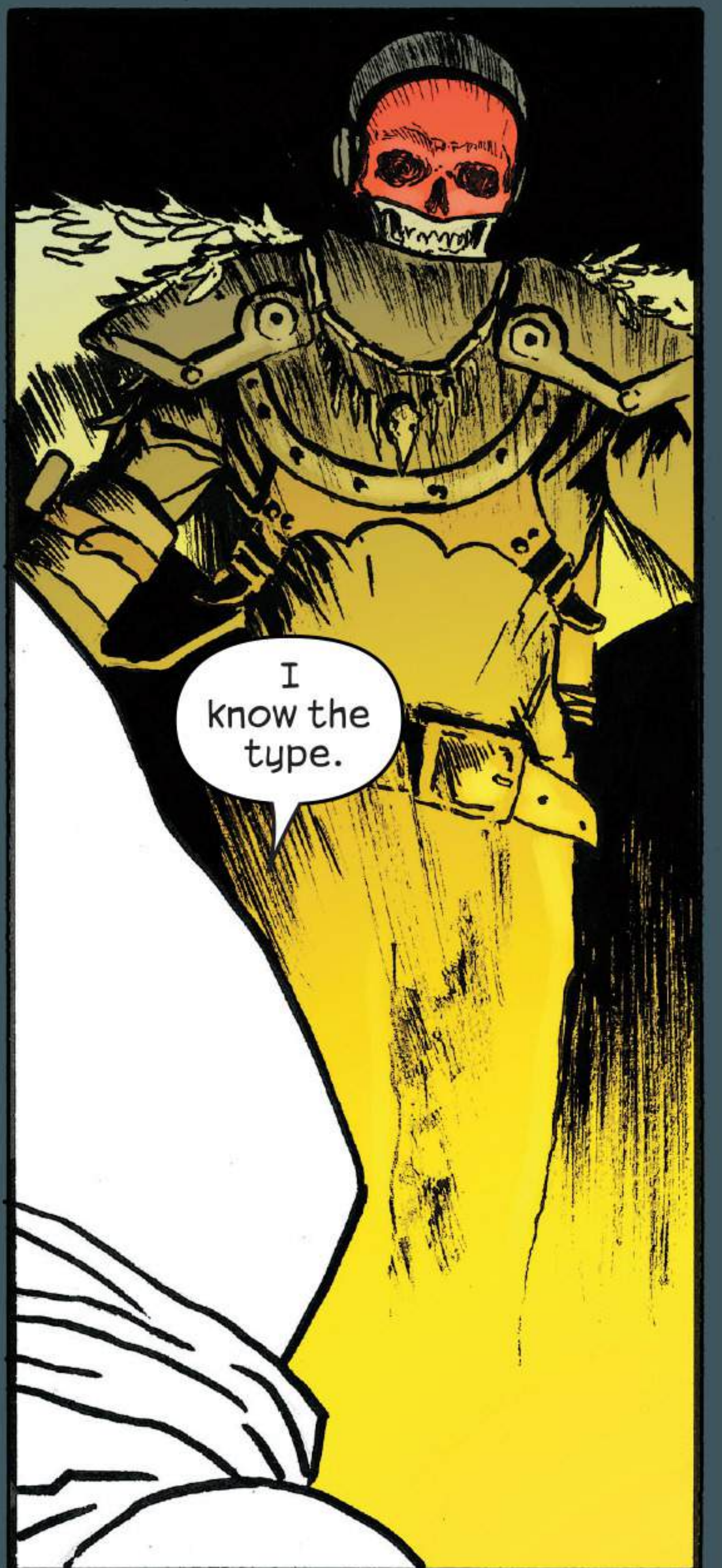


You're *safe* now.



How can you be *sure*?

Do... do you know the raptor goddess?



I know the type.



But the raptor *isn't* coming for you.

She flew too close to the moon.

And the moon must also *feed*.



You're lying!

Why would you do that?

You're supposed to be our friend.

The goddess said you were her servant, too...

...that we didn't need to fear you!

Promises were made!

She'll come for us!

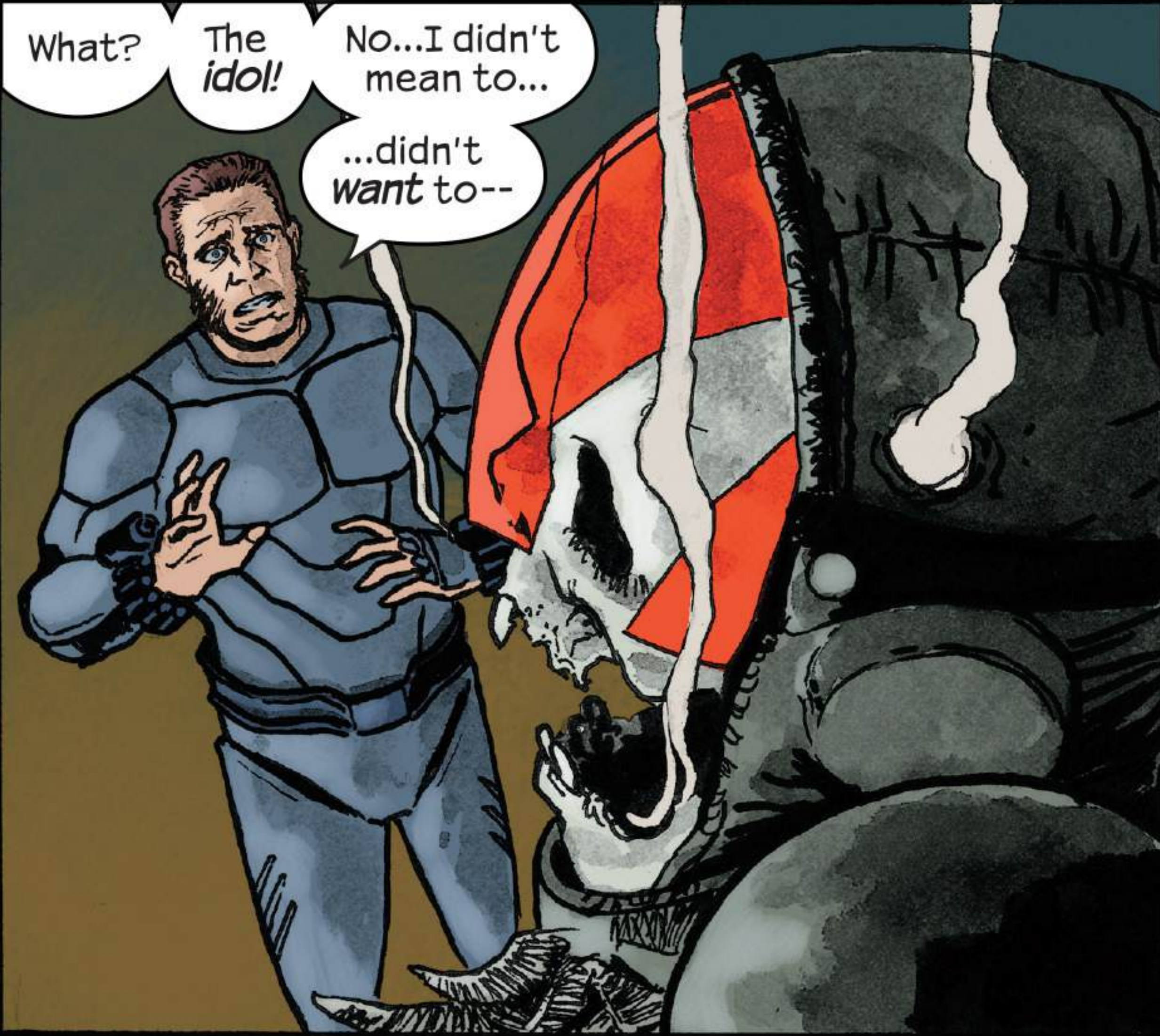
And if she's pleased with our offerings...

...she'll guide us...

...make us angels--



--real angels!

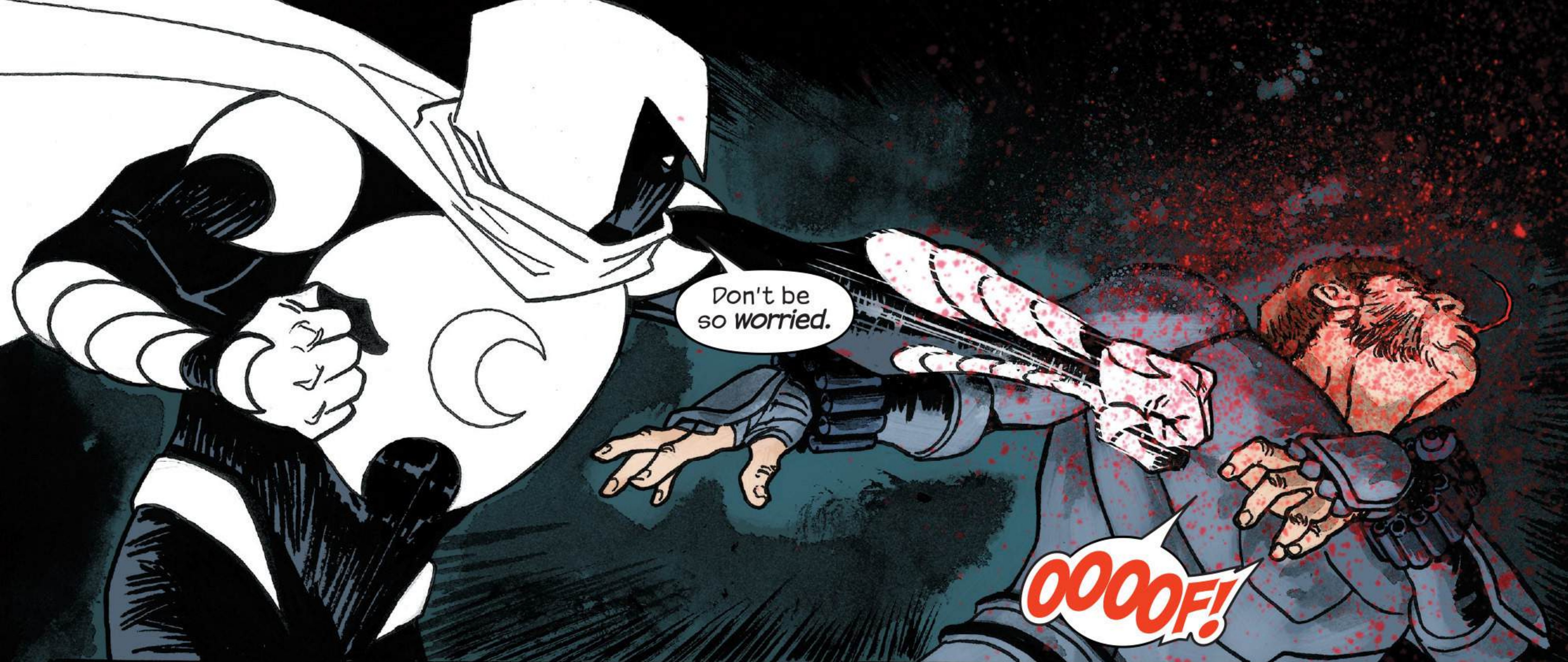


What?

The idol!

No...I didn't mean to...

...didn't want to--



Don't be so worried.

OOOOF!



You can't kill a god so easily.

If you could, everyone would be doing it.

Believe me.



But you can't get *faith* and *desperation* mixed up, either.

Do that...



...and you're only sacrificing yourself.

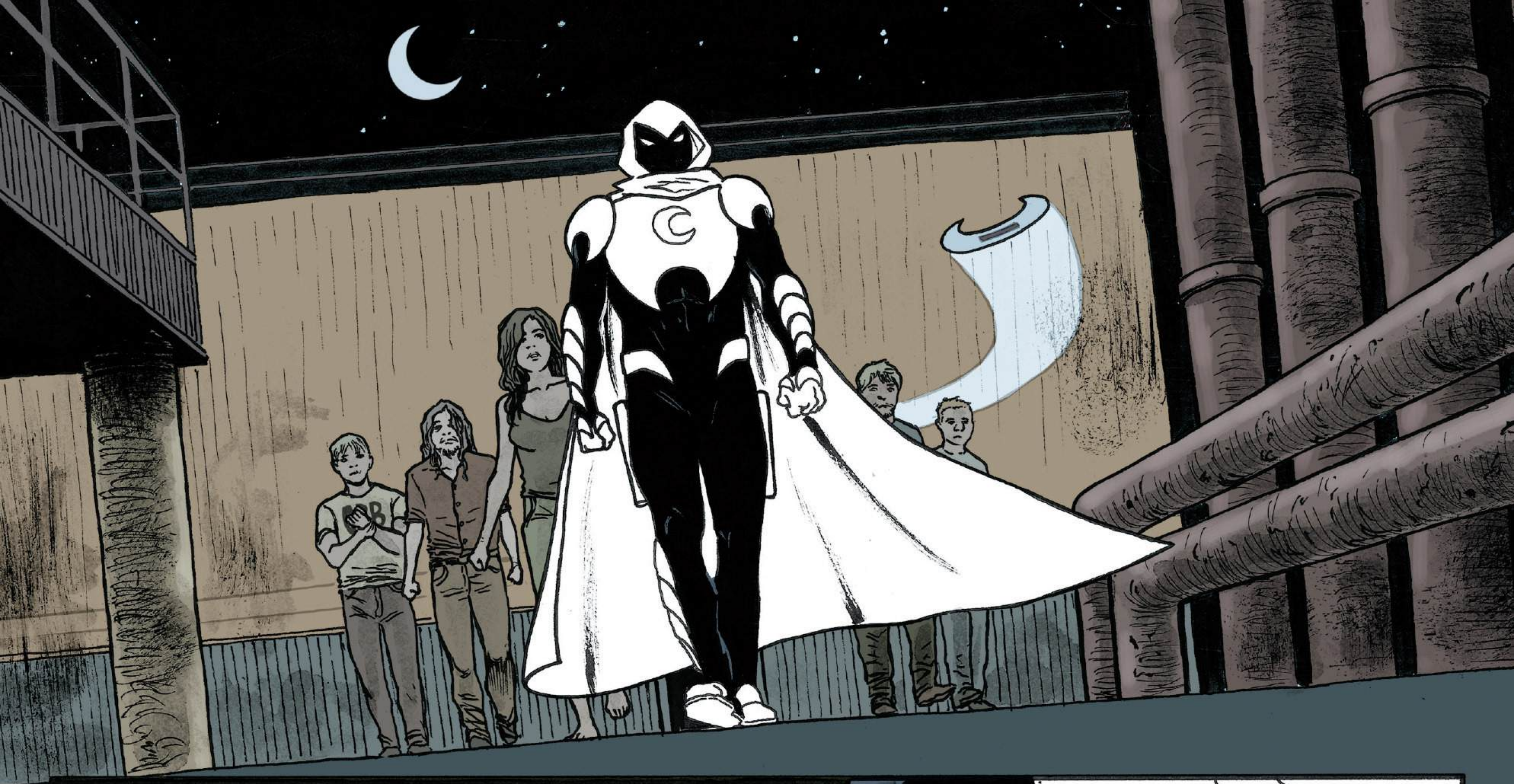


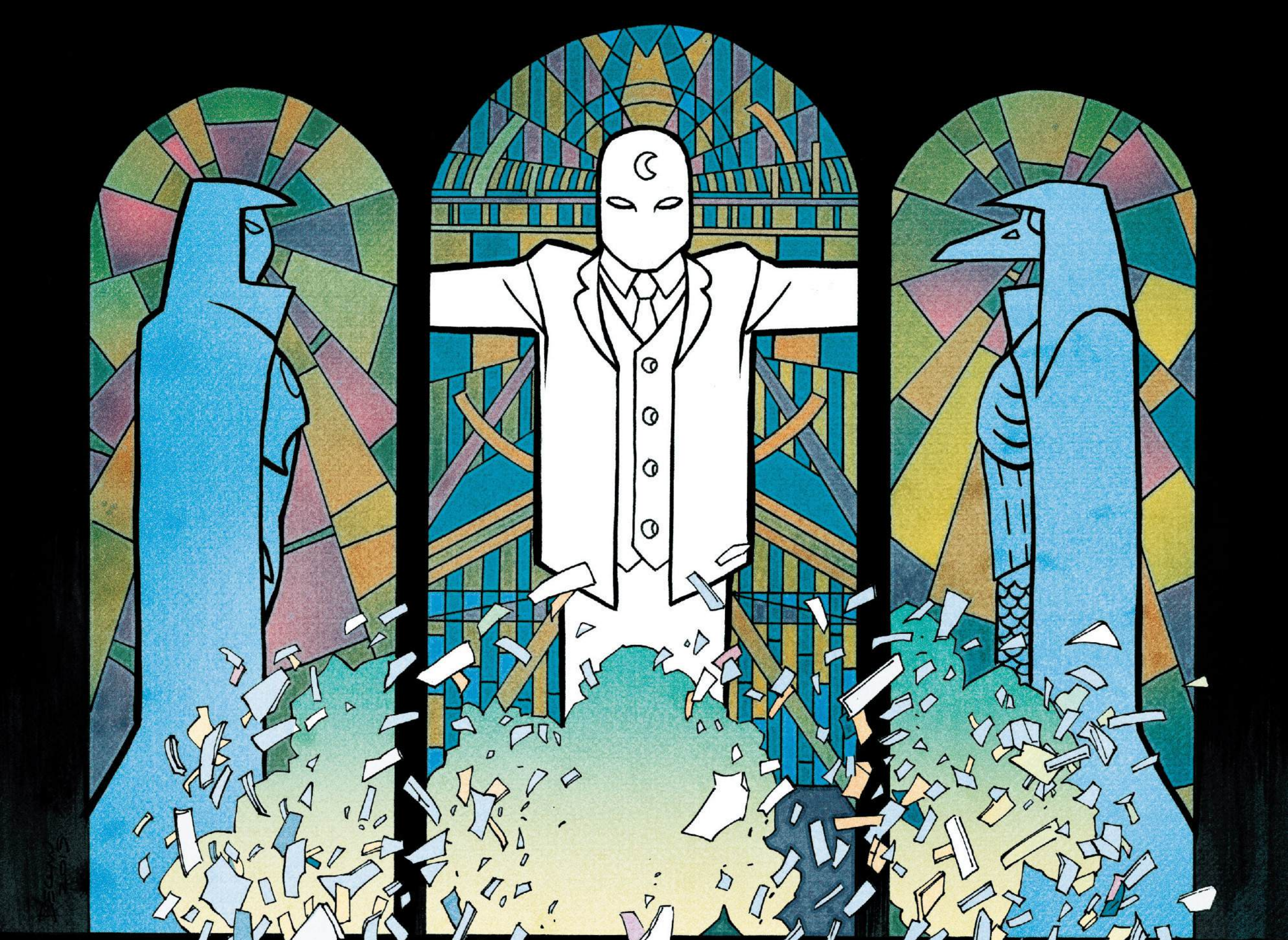
What...

...do we do now?



You follow me.





MOON KNIGHT™

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017



MOON KNIGHT

"DUALITY"





Hi there.
Welcome.

Why don't
you come with
me? I'll show you
around.



We're
going to get
you back on
your feet.

This is
a place of
healing.

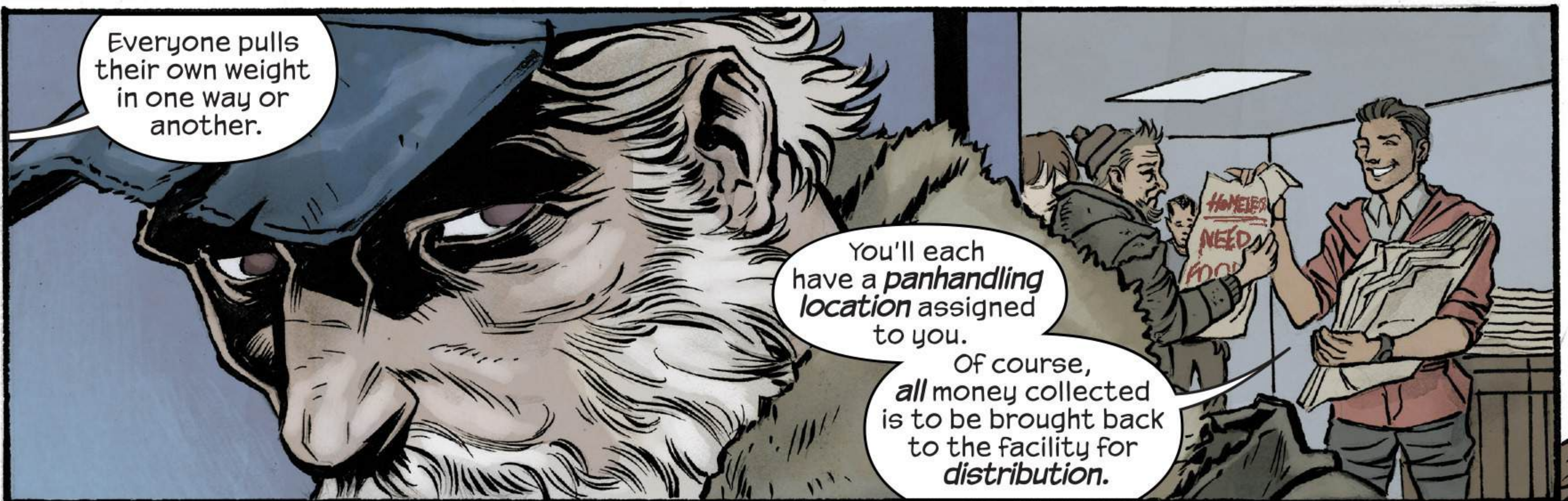
We all
help each
other
here.



Everyone pulls
their own weight
in one way or
another.

You'll each
have a *panhandling*
location assigned
to you.

Of course,
all money collected
is to be brought back
to the facility for
distribution.



You will
have a *quota*
that needs to
be met each
day.

And
everyone
pulls their own
weight.

We
have room for
everyone.





The
uhm...the
signs...

...they were
handwritten...on
cardboard...

...but they
were all bent
up and folded
in the same
way...

...like
they were *mass-*
produced.



Oh?

No
one else
has ever
noticed
that.



But
don't worry
about that.

Everything's
going to be *all*
right now.



With us,
you're part
of something
bigger.

Our savior
has *blessed*
us all...

...all of *night's*
travelers...

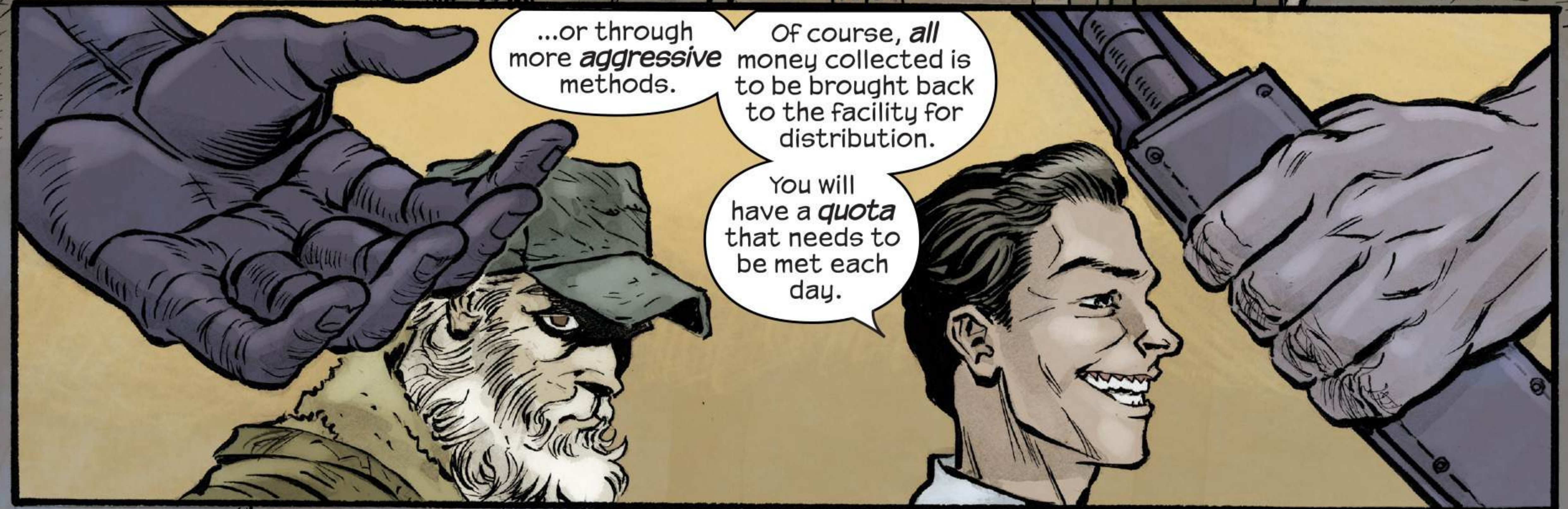
..but we
all have duties
to fulfill.



Some
of us...

...like
myself...

...have
been chosen
to be part of
the *welcoming*
committee.





To
Khonshu...

...sacrifices
must be made.



I think...

...I've seen enough.



Don't worry.

Everything is going to be *all right* now.



We make this as *painless* as possible.



That's great.



Wish I could say the same.



What is this?

What is happening?

Our savior... protect me.

Your prayers fall on deaf ears.



Khonsu is *not* listening.



You've been a good tour guide so far.

So tell me...

...where do I find the person *in charge* of this blasphemy?



N-Not blasphemy...

=Hhrrk=

...it's...



...you'll see...

...truth...

Welcome.

Welcome,
father.

We
have been
expecting
you.



You...

...have?



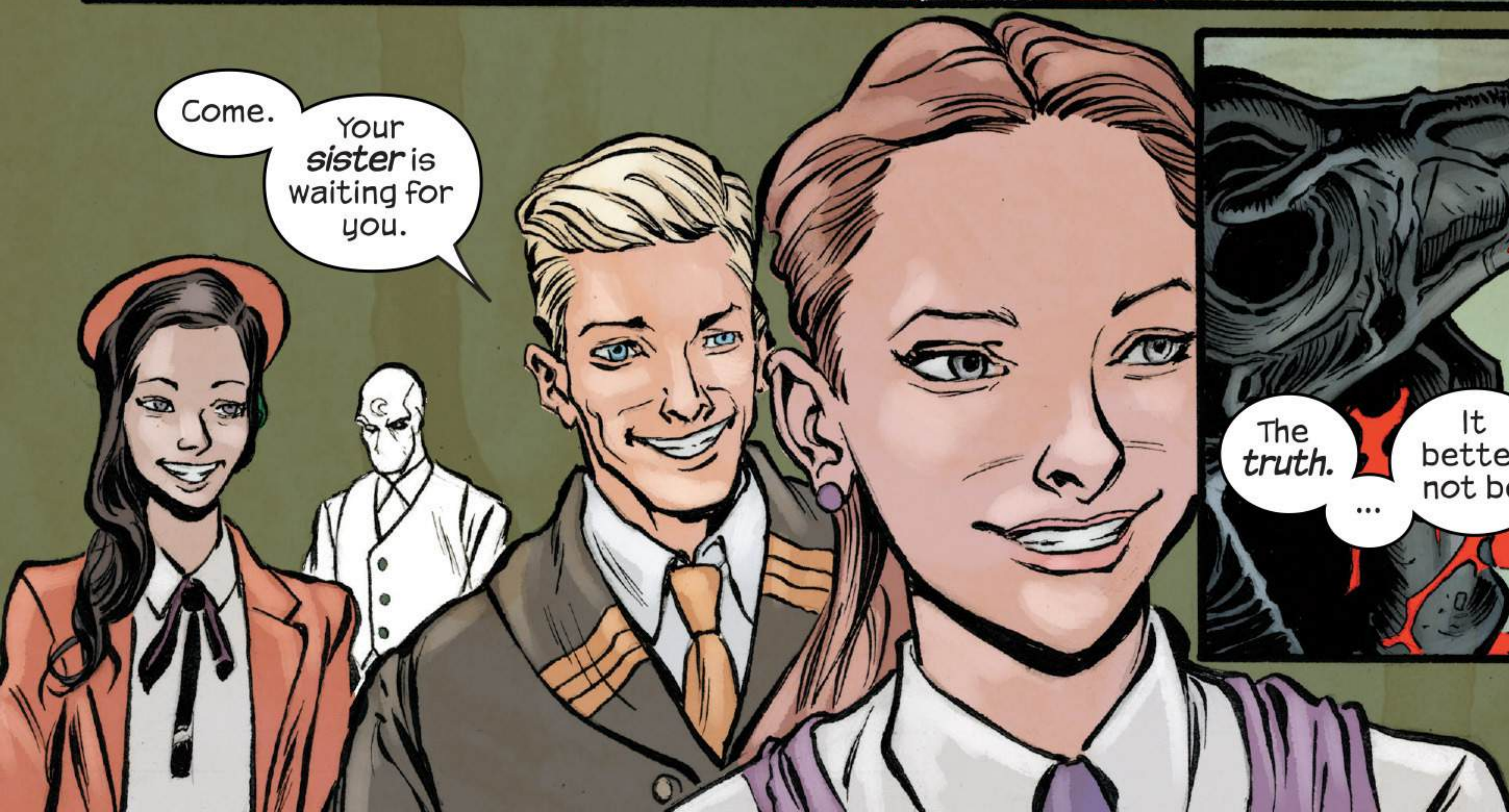
Of
course.

You
are one
of us.



Come.

Your
sister is
waiting for
you.

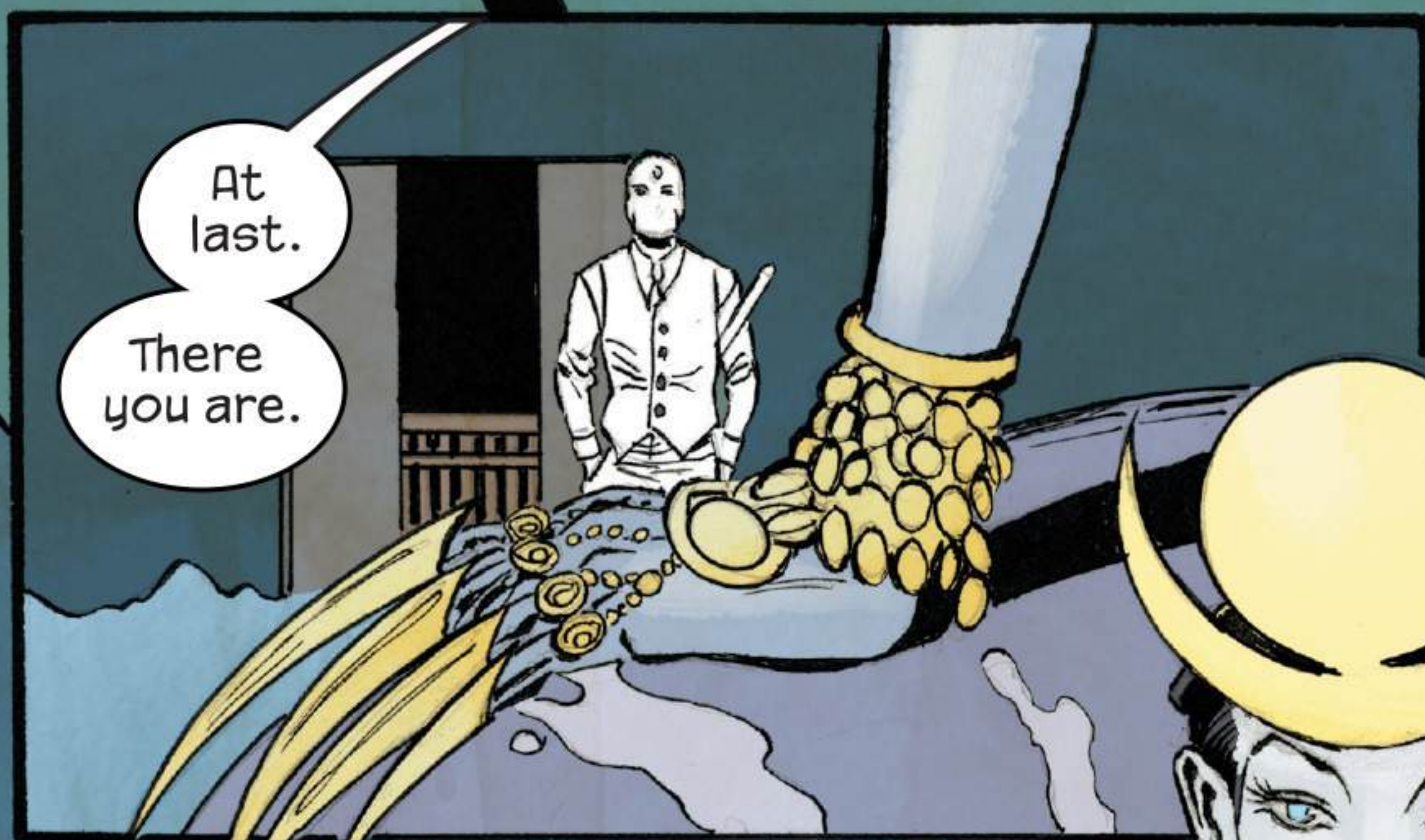


The
truth.

It
better
not be.







At last.

There you are.

And don't you look *dapper*?

Come forward and let me look upon you.

Let me get a good look at my *brother*...

...my *husband*.

Husband?

That must have been *some night* in Vegas...



...because I don't remember exchanging vows.



You swore yourself to me...

...just as I swore myself to you...

...when we pledged ourselves to *Khonshu*.



Funny.

Do you *condemn* all your husbands to *human sacrifice*?



We didn't *recognize* you.

You had *disguised* yourself.

Only when you revealed yourself was I aware that our *union* was at hand.



It is as Khonshu *commands*.



Whatever it is you're doing here...

...sacrificing people...hurting people...

...this *isn't* Khonshu's way.

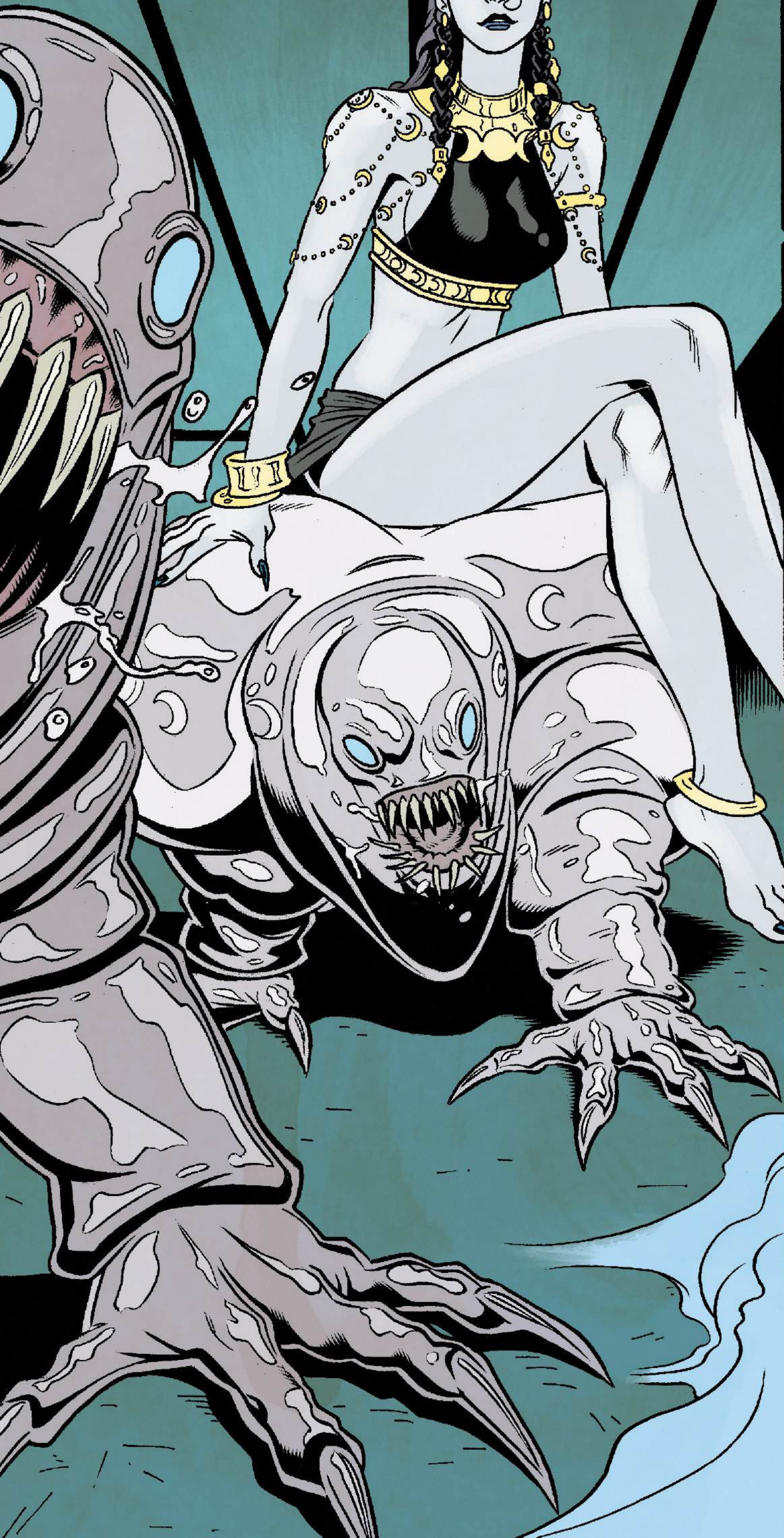
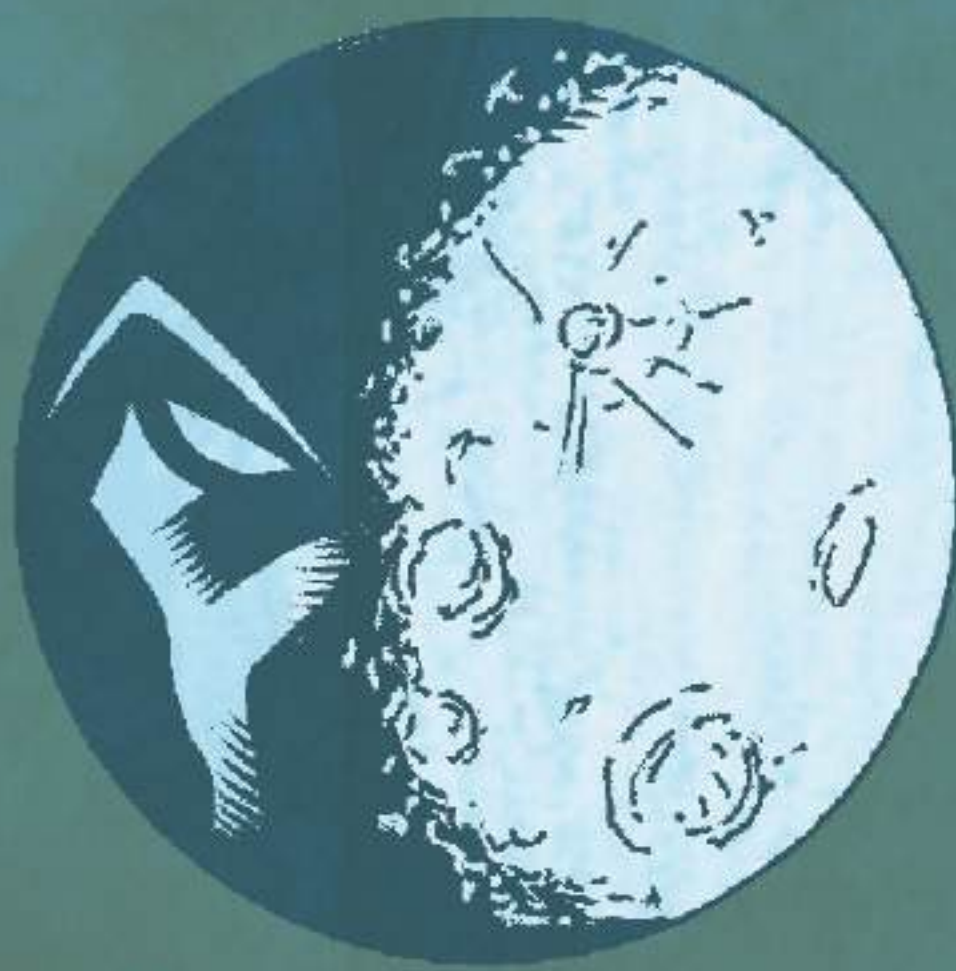
Ha!

Surely you can't be so fresh in your vestments to believe *that!*

Khonshu is *more* than one thing.

His whims *change* like the phases of the moon.

One moment, the *protector* of night's travelers...



...the next...

...the hunter!

I'm not buying it.

You sound like someone who stumbled onto Khonshu's name in a college mythology text...

...then figured out a way to twist it to serve *your own* needs.

You're *using* people... making them serve you because you like the *attention*...

...making them steal for you because you like the *money*...

...making them *die* for you...

...because you're some sort of *twisted* @#%\$!





Do you not see Khonshu's glory in these creatures?

They are our god's gift...



...called down from the heavens.



If I'm wrong...

...Khonshu will try to stay my hand.



He'll try...

...but I'll shut you down either way.



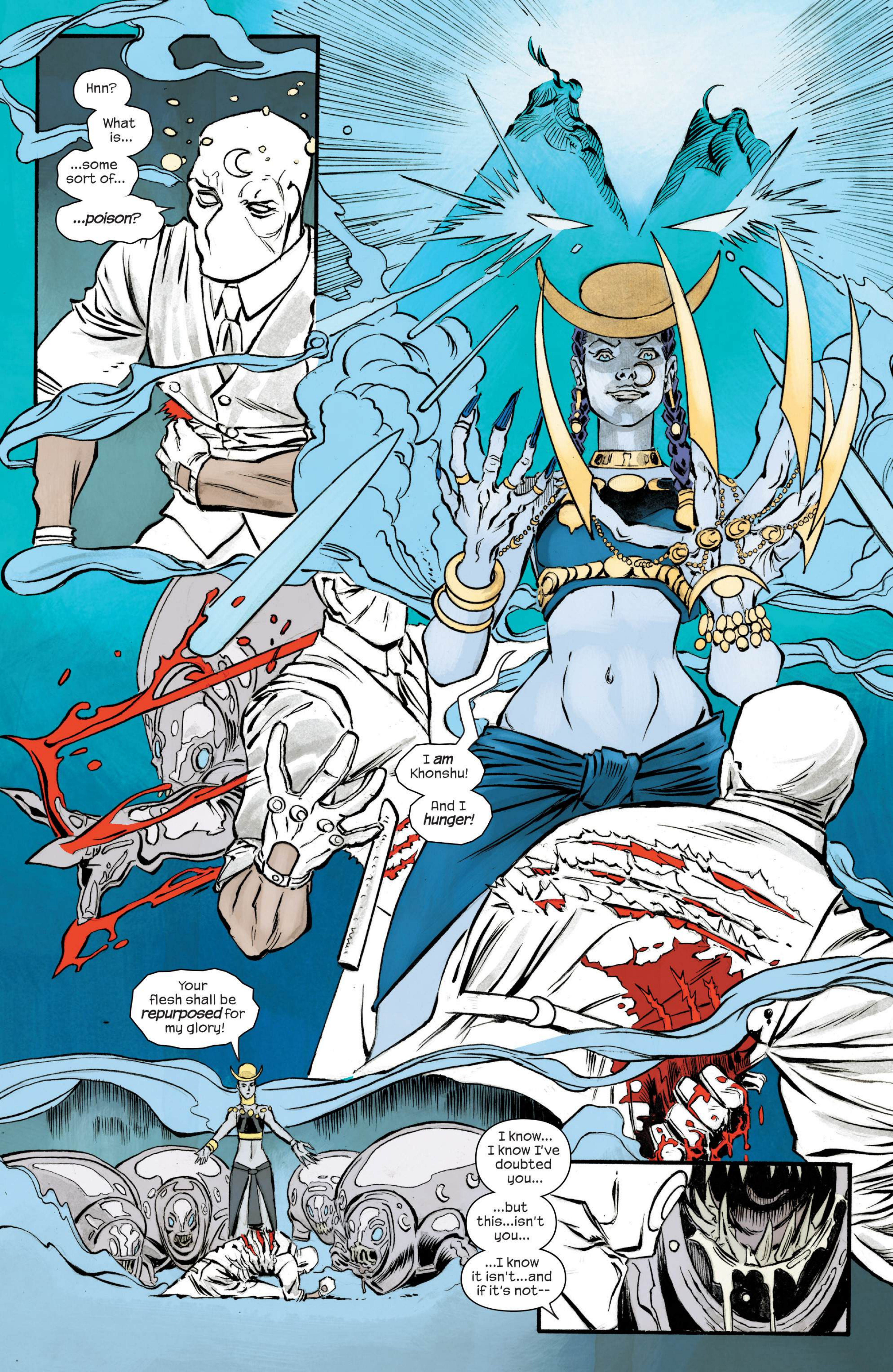
A pity.



Khonshu must weep to see how far his child has fallen.

Perhaps you will find his forgiveness--





Hnn?

What
is...

...some
sort of...

...poison?

I am
Khonshu!

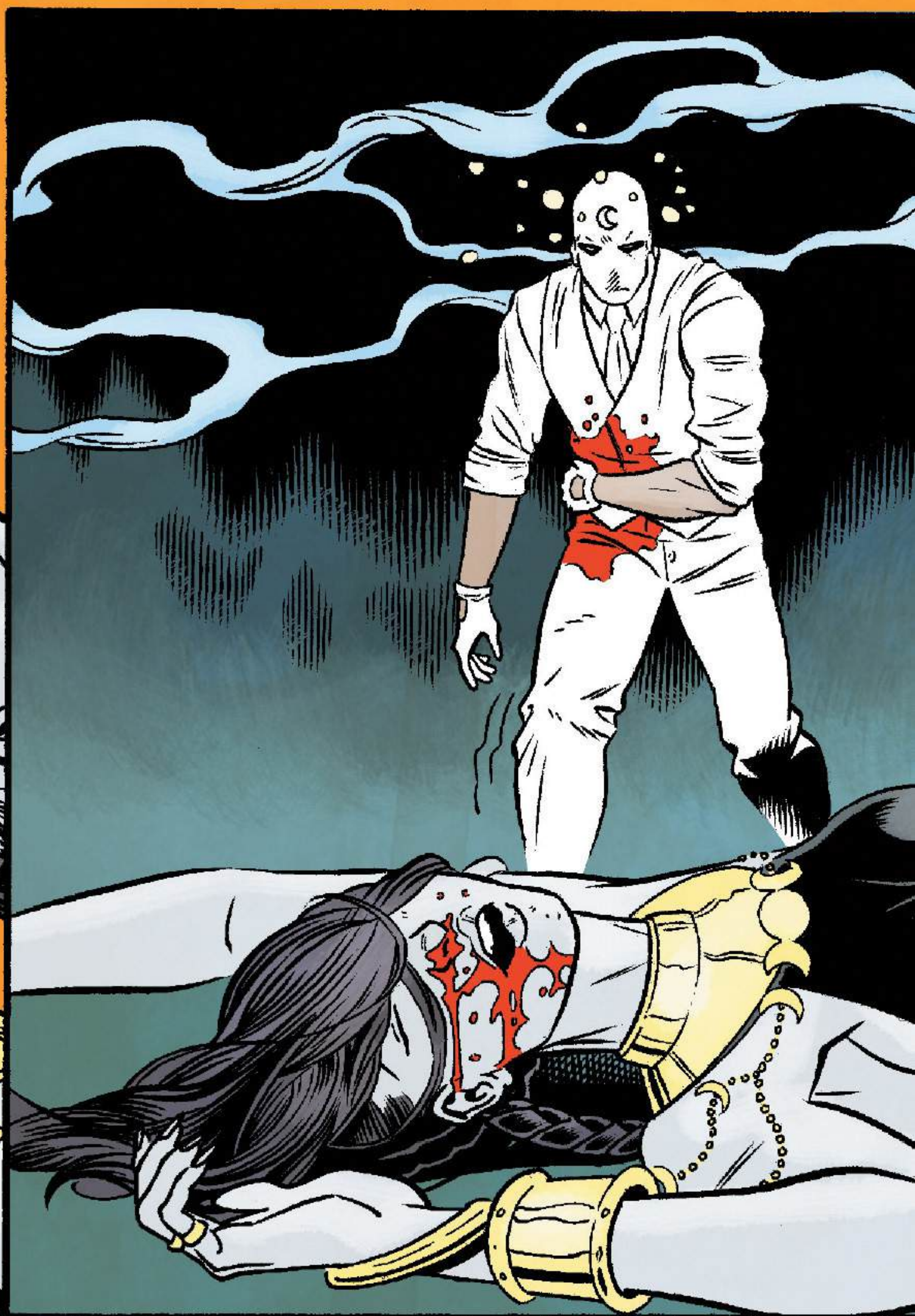
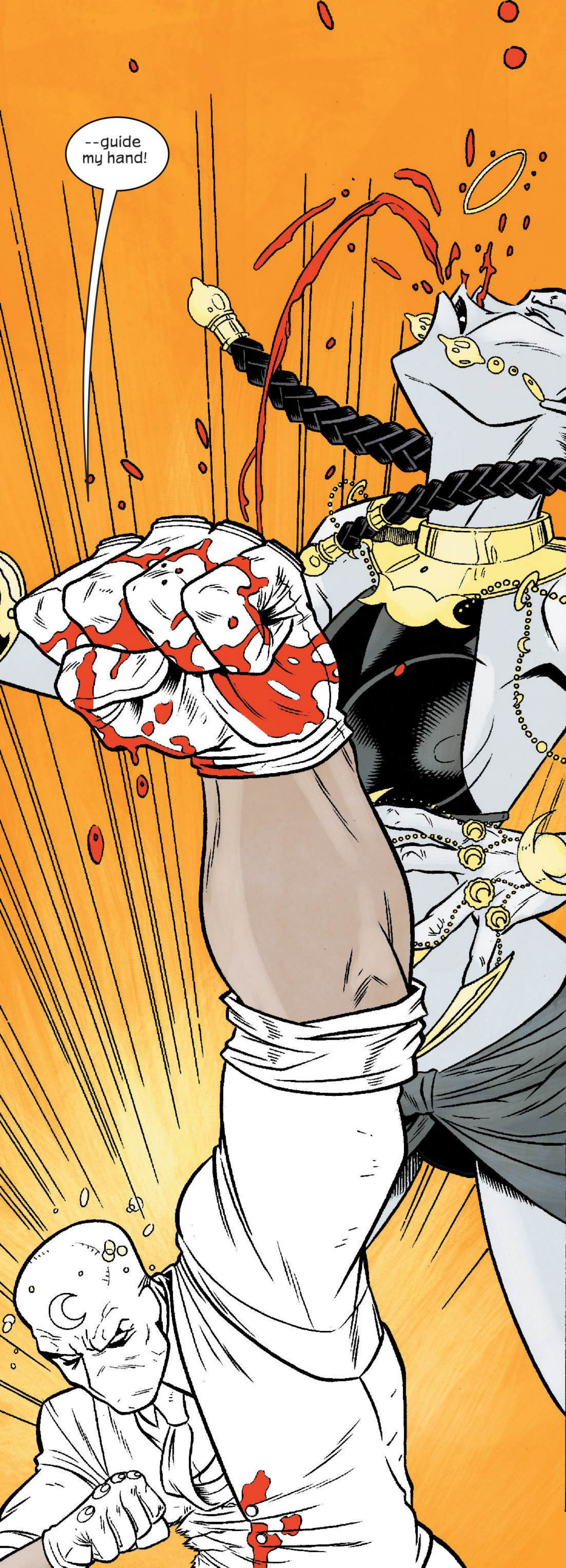
And I
hunger!

Your
flesh shall be
repurposed for
my glory!

I know...
I know I've
doubted
you...

...but
this...isn't
you...

...I know
it isn't...and
if it's not--





I don't suppose you'll tell me, will you?



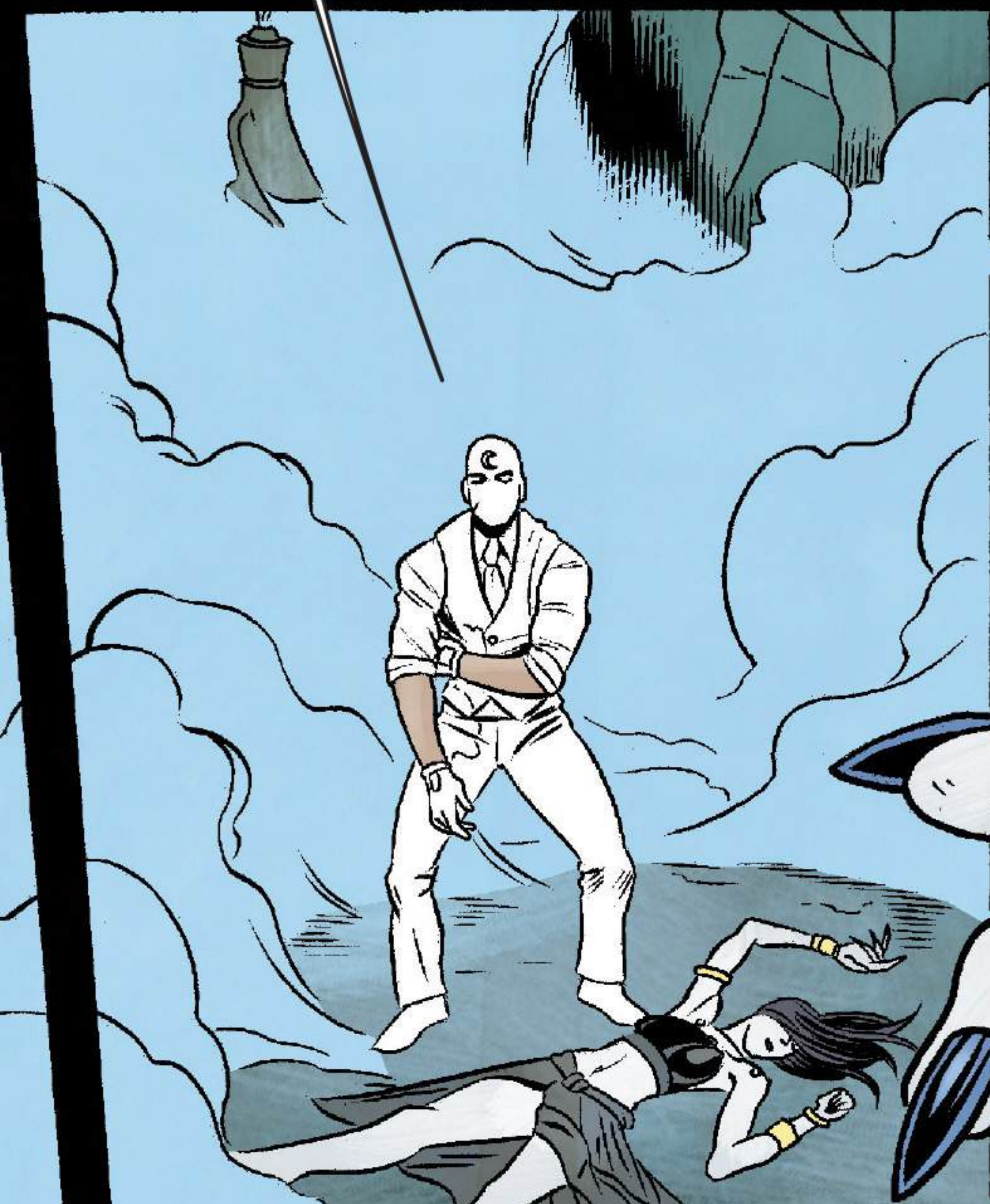
I tried to welcome you.

All are welcome.



But is your faith so *narrow-minded*?

Can your god and mine not *coexist*?

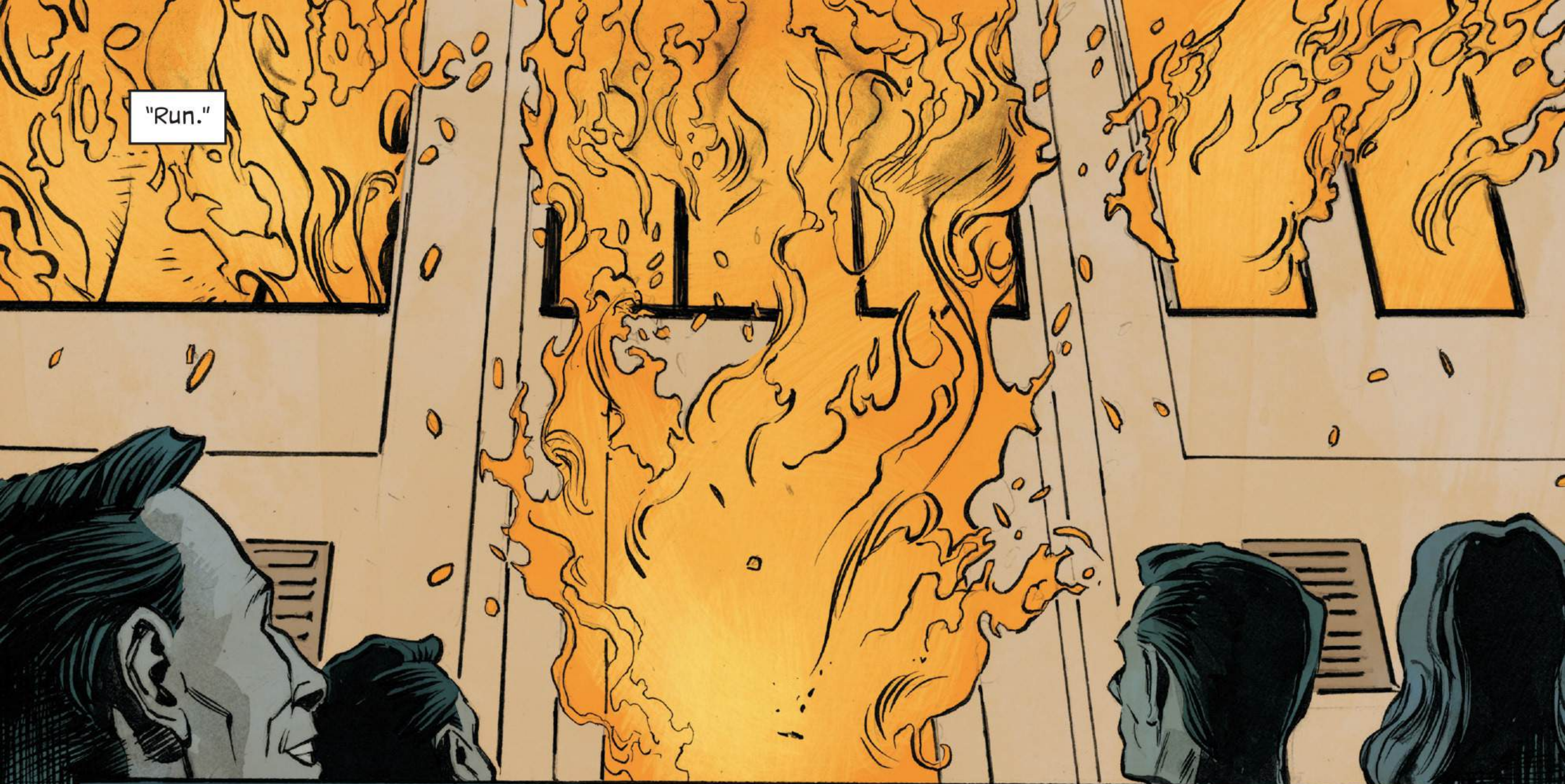


Have you *nothing* to say to me?



Actually, I do...

"Run."



"DON'T
WORRY."



EVERYTHING'S
GOING TO BE
ALL RIGHT
NOW.

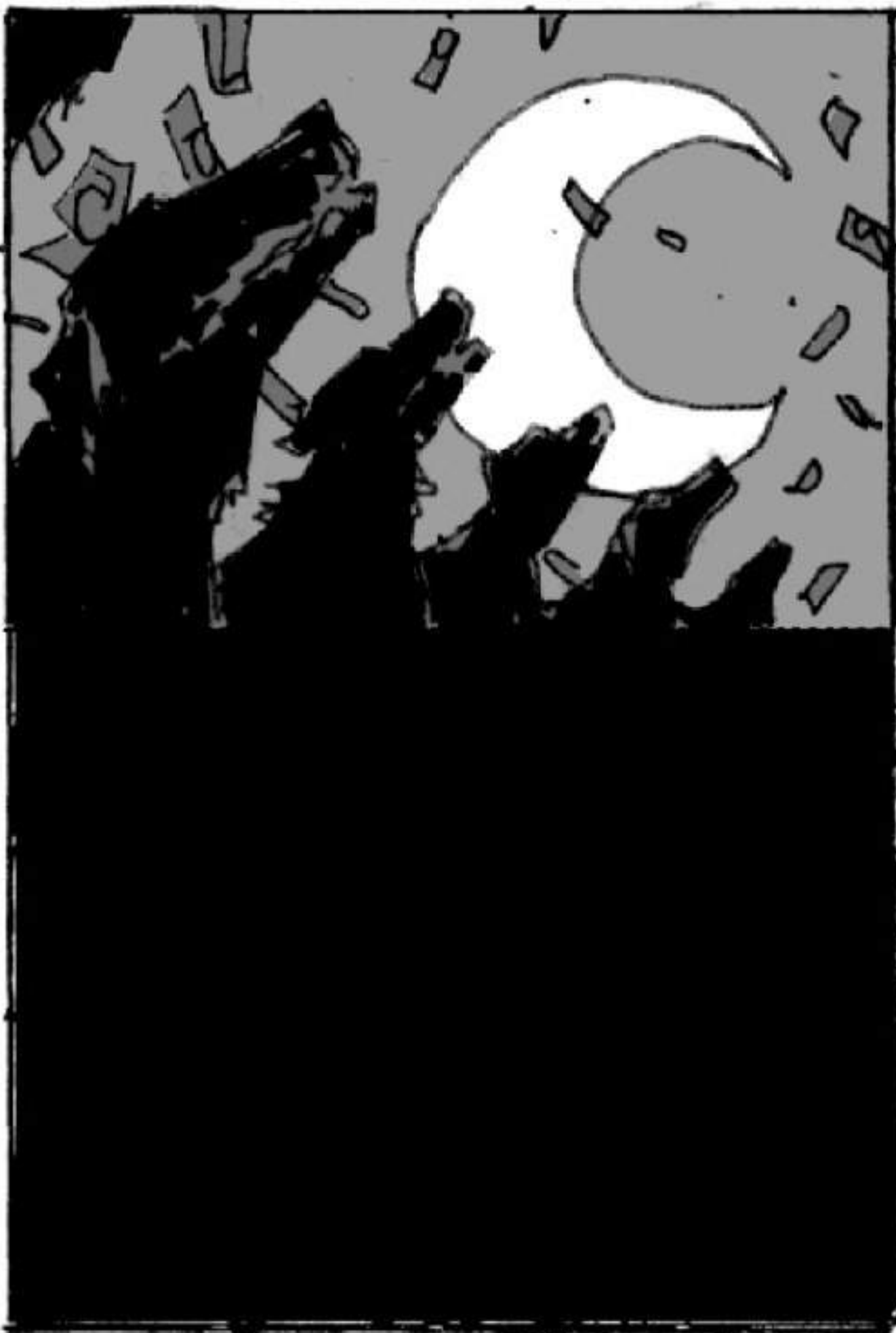
A



B



A



B



A

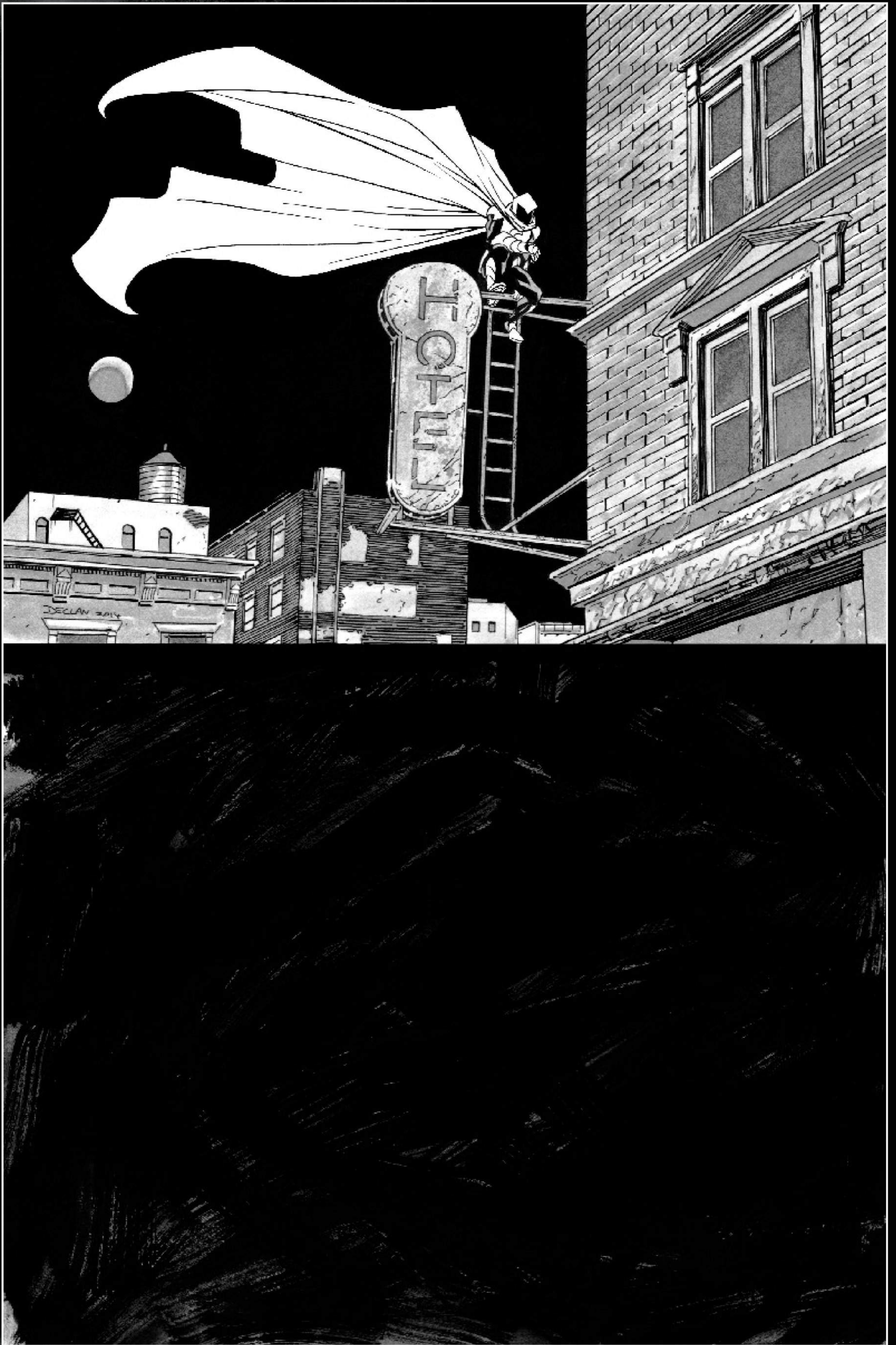


B



C





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